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YOUR CHANCE TO WIN £25 TO SPEND WITH A GEM ADVERTISER OF YOUR CHOICE!
See Page 16 for details of our weekly competition...

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VILLAGERS REMEMBER CAPTAIN TOM CLARKE

Villagers in Miskin came together to raise money for an Armed Forces charity in memory of Captain Tom Clarke, of Cowbridge. The cheque presentation took place last week, and pictured above at the Miskin War Memorial is Colonel Kevin Davies (front left) with Colin Ferris and Wayne Dalton, and the Minnesingers, with musical director Meryn Williams. (For the full report, see page 5).

Local author lands top crime writing award

by TIM CHAPMAN

A crime novel launched at Cowbridge Book Festival by best-selling author Belinda Bauer has won a major literary award.

'Rubbernecker' took the Theakstons Old Peculier Crime Novel of the Year award at the Harrogate crime writing festival last week.

It establishes Belinda, who lives near Cowbridge, in the first rank of popular crime novelists.

Judges described her book as "extraordinary, original and compelling". Past winners of the award have included Lee Child and Val McDermid.

Belinda told The GEM: "It is a wonderful victory for me and for Wales, and just goes to show that there are no boundaries when it comes to a good story.

"I've lived here longer than I've lived anywhere, and returning to my student days through the eyes of my hero, Patrick Fort, was a pleasure."

But for Belinda it wasn't just a case of creating an exciting story, she wanted to make it as authentic as possible and that involved doing extensive background research.

"Patrick is a medical student at Cardiff University, who believes the body he's dissecting in anatomy class might be a murder victim. I had to do so much medical research I should have taken exams!

"I had lots of help from the university – and reading groups and libraries in the Vale have been very enthusiastic about my books, so it's nice that all that local support has translated into a prestigious international prize.

"I know lots of local people voted for me, so a big 'Thank You' to all of them."

Belinda shot to literary fame when she won the CWA Gold Dagger for her debut novel *Blacklands* four years ago.

Since then, she has been a regular visitor to the Cowbridge Book Festival.

The organiser of the festival, Stella Cheeseman, said she was thrilled by Belinda's latest success.

She said: "I was delighted to hear that Belinda had won this prestigious award. Delighted, but not surprised!

"She creates the most unlikely heroes that the reader cares about and then places them in the most gripping and original stories that we can't put down.

"Clearly, Belinda Bauer is a name we should look out for in the future."

Belinda carried off a prize of £3,000 and the award, a small hand-carved oak beer cask.

Belinda – back in Cowbridge with the 'literary barrel', The Theakstons Old Peculier Crime Novel of the Year Award.

Mystery over Morrisons

EARLIER this week, the Morrisons supermarket group was dead-batting enquiries about its plans in Cowbridge.

With rumours rampant in the town, all claiming that the store was moving into the vacant Spar site on High Street, a Morrisons spokeman said that they did not comment on speculation.

The GEM asked the question once again yesterday (Wednesday) but, as we went to press, no response had been received.

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Readers' Letters

Please keep your letters BRIEF and address them to: The Editor, Don John, at Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL or email gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk

LETTERS AND E-MAILS MUST INCLUDE FULL ADDRESS AND A CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBER

IMPORTANT: We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail. An email address alone is not sufficient! We will (in certain circumstances)protect a writer's identity, if requested.

BRIDGING THE GAP!

IT was pleasing (and amazing) to read the headline 'Vale Council looks for new solution to Dinas Powys bridge problem' in The Barry GEM dated July 10.

Pleasing, because residents of Long Meadow and Murch were not to be subjected to 14 weeks of misery. No buses and longer car journeys, including three sets of traffic lights, to Barry.

Amazing, because earlier this year, this solution was put in a phone call to Chris Williams, our local councillor, who showed scant interest, said nothing could be done, plans had been passed and the 14 weeks work would go ahead.

The same solution was also put to a councillor at a Saturday meeting in the Lee Hall, who gave a similar response.

It is also surprising that, during the many official visits (in the years before the land was in the LDP) made to this bridge, not one person appreciated this obvious solution.

Name and address supplied.

'Rubbish is everyone's responsibility'

I AGREE completely that rubbish left on pavements needs to be dealt with ('Resident's appeal for clean-up services to solve problem of messy pavements' The GEM, July 17). However this is not just the council's problem. We should all take more responsibility for our own little area of the Vale.

If all of us who are able to do small things like pick up the spillages left by our own rubbish, sweep and tidy in front of our own homes and those of our immediate neighbours, we would make a huge positive difference.

Let's stop looking to the council to do everything for us and do a bit more ourselves.

Sarah Jones, Barry.

End of term event at Cylch

ON Friday, July18 the children and their families of Cylch Meithrin Llanilltud Fawr enjoyed an end of term barbecue.

Cylch leader Kirsti Harding manned the barbecue while the children played on the bouncy castle, had their faces painted and enjoyed the summer sunshine.

Parent Nick Parker said: "We've had a lovely afternoon socialising with other parents and children. Great food, great company! Thanks to the staff and committee for organising it!"

The committee would like to thank Neveah's Face Painting and Wiggleys Farm for their donations that helped make the afternoon a great success.

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'Can Mr Cairns use his influence?'

ALL credit to Alun Cairns MP for his elevation to Junior Welsh Office Minister.

With the extra demands on his time, it is hoped that his regular guided coach tours for his Vale constituents of the Houses of Parliament will not be adversely affected.

However, now that he has more direct influence with the Westminister Government, can he not obtain a just central Government grant to the Welsh Government, and redress the long-standing unfair underfunding of the Vale Council, initially created by the Conservative Welsh Office Minister David (now Lord) Hunt in 1995, which has never been redressed by subsequent Conservative Westminster administrations.

At that time, the former South Glamorgan was divided into Cardiff, receiving 72 per cent of the budget, and the Vale of Glamorgan, receiving 28 per cent.

Mr Cairns is quite correct that the Vale is underfunded, initiated by his predecessors.

Instead, we hear from Mr Cairns continual criticism of the Assembly and appeals for more Vale Council money.

I appreciate the timescale for achieving redress is now a mere nine months until the General Election but one never knows, or could it be merely a case of a 'Here today, gone tomorrow minister'?

Guy Ingram,
Llantwit First Town Councillor.

Changing lives through music

IF I could choose one person I would like to meet, it would have to be Gareth Malone.

I greatly admired how he has changed lives with happiness and a purpose.

In his early TV shows, it dealt with schools and pubs, etc.

One boys' school with poor behaviour and language was so appalling, he nearly gave up on them.

However, he must have felt proud when, smartly dressed, they appeared in concert at the Royal Albert Hall in London.

With the success of his work and choirs, he was awarded the OBE which he so richly deserved. Well done, Gareth!

Mrs Heveron,
Rhoose.

Map says 'Dogs ARE allowed on beach'

I hope all dog owners, local and those visiting, will be heartened by the map at the Llantwit Major beach car park.

This finally confirms that dogs are allowed on the beach, and says where they can go.

Please, though, all owners – clean up after your dogs and keep them off "the forbidden area".

Don't give anyone an excuse to try and ban dogs completely. Let's all enjoy the beach, and hope that those who don't have dogs will still clean up after themselves and take their litter to the many bins provided.

Jo Cody, Llantwit Major.

Great service from the NHS

ON July 16 at 7.50am I had cause to dial 999 and request ambulance attendance for my wife.

Within four minutes, the ambulance was at my door, and the crew, Lucy Sullivan and Karen Evans, immediately set about providing the help required.

These two young women were absolutely brilliant, not only with regard to the medical help they provided but also the manner in which they dealt with my wife who was considerably distressed.

By 8.45am, we were in emergency admissions at Llandough Hospital, where she was received by a nursing sister and by 10am all the checks, tests and x-rays needed had been carried out.

My wife was then examined by a junior doctor and as soon as the results of the tests were available, she was examined by a consultant.

Once again, the staff on the emergency admissions ward were quite outstanding and I have to say that I was totally satisfied with everything that happened from the moment I called the ambulance until we left the hospital.

Rev Irfon James,
Barry.

'OUTSTANDING QUALITY'? Not in my view!

I FEEL obliged to write and respond to an article published in The GEM on June 26 regarding the Taylor-Wimpey development at Townmill Road in Cowbridge.

In the article you reported that Mr Steve Northam won an award for his work on the Scholars View development, which is apparently of 'outstanding quality'.

I can assure you this assertion of outstanding quality is not the case, and there is certainly no justification for this award from my perspective as a resident of this development.

Elaine Batt,
Cowbridge.

Fête raised more than £3,500

ON Saturday, July 12, Friends of Heronsbridge held their annual summer fête in the grounds of Heronsbridge School, Bridgend.

The event was well attended and the promised rain held off until almost the end! There was a great variety of stalls, children's activities and food and drink options.

Entertainment consisted of disco music, a football tournament, Stagecoach Theatre Group and the 'Phil and Ash' singing duo.

The event raised upwards of £3,500, which will go to provide extra facilities and resources for the pupils of the school.

"The Friends wish to thank all those who helped in any way to make this event so successful. Your support is greatly appreciated."

Marjorie Nash,
Chair of the Friends

A busy summer for Air Training Corps

NOT looking forward to the long boring summer holiday? Fancy some flying, sport, adventurous training, shooting? If so the Air Cadets could be for you.

The 372 (Barry) Squadron, have vacancies for young men and women between 12 and 17 years old, who want to join an exciting, challenging and fast moving youth organisation.

Air Cadets have the opportunity to fly in the Grob tutor aircraft and Vigilant glider, often taking control under pilot supervision. Brave cadets can try aerobatics!

Better still is that flying and gliding is free! Cadets can also try their hand at abseiling, canoeing, hill walking, camping, navigation, shooting and teambuilding exercises.

The Squadron is also actively involved and successful at all levels of the Duke of Edinburgh award scheme.

The Cadets' general fitness, skills and team working are always encouraged to improve through football, rugby, hockey, netball, athletics, archery and swimming.

Air Cadets also have the opportunity to visit a Royal Air Force station for one to two weeks in the UK and overseas; living and breathing the Royal Air Force at first hand as well as participating in the annual trip to the battlefields and memorials of the first World War in Belgium and France.

Among the many highlights this year - cadet Joe Bailey has sailed on the Challenge Wales boat, Jake Paterson and Steph Jones travelled to Cyprus and the Squadron is going to Belgium and Edinburgh soon.

Cadets have also travelled the Brecon Beacons, Black Mountains and the Gower for adventurous training as well as museum visits to London, RAF Cosford, National Memorial Arboretum and RNAS Yeovilton.

While the Cadets enjoy many exciting activities for themselves, they are also encouraged to support their community – fundraising and providing hands-on assistance to many local organizations, raising over £7,000 in the last year.

Cadet Alex Cheeseley said: "Air Cadets is great fun and we get to do loads of exciting activities all the time; there are so many cool activities to sign up to while also learning some great skills for life."

If you have a spirit for adventure, 372 (Barry) Squadron has vacancies for boys and girls between 12-17 years old.

The Squadron parades on Mondays and Wednesdays 7pm – 9.30pm, behind Adams Funeral Parlour or you can email oc.372@aircadets.org, or visit www.372squadron.org or phone the Squadron on 01446 747734 for more information about joining or the Air Training Corps.

HIGH TIDE TIMES

(UNTIL JULY 31)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time AM	Ht M	Time PM	Ht M
24 Thur	05.33	8.4	17.57	8.6
25 Fri	06.17	8.8	18.37	8.9
26 Sat	06.58	9.0	19.14	9.2
27 Sun	07.36	9.0	19.56	9.3
28 Mon	08.11	9.3	20.24	9.4
29 Tues	08.44	9.3	20.56	9.4
30 Wed	09.14	9.3	21.28	9.3
31 Thur	09.47	9.2	22.00	9.1

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should check with a tide table specific to their location.

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'STORY SPACE' - A perfect place for pollinators or a picnic...

BIFFA came to town in mid-June to make a film about the 'Story Space' in Old Hall Gardens, installed by Cowbridge Charter Trust a year ago next to the library, thanks to a Biffa award of £5k and match funding by Creative Rural Communities.

The Biffa camera crew were on hand to film the youngsters.

IT'S STORYTIME!

Biffa, whose community and environmental fund is financed by landfill taxes administered by the Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts, also awarded the trust an extra £2k for coming first among the small projects they had supported nation-wide.

The Biffa team and camera crew arrived around 2pm on a Thursday (which is Cowbridge Charter Trust's volunteer work party day) to find the gardens literally alive with children: Blwyddyn Pedwar, (year-4) of Ysgol Iolo Morganwg were exploring every inch of the garden.

With the approval of Rhian Williams, head of Ysgol Iolo, the class was trying out the biodiversity work book being developed by Cowbridge Charter Trust so that schools and families can make the most of their visit to the gardens in spring and summer.

Blwyddyn Pedwar's inspirational teacher, Thomas Roberts, had added computer graphics to the material supplied by Cowbridge Charter Trust to direct the children towards positive tasks such as identifying the major trees from a map of the garden and a picture of the foliage.

The Biffa team was delighted to find most communication at this stage was in the Welsh language, and this included the parents, who had come along to give a hand with keeping an eye on the 30 children.

The children crocodiled back to school and their seats in the story space were taken by the Beavers who have made a section of the garden their own by building a bug hotel and planting snowdrops.

Their hopes to augment this brave beginning with a border of sunflowers were dashed as their planned sunflower-growing competition was nipped in the bud because slugs had launched a pre-emptive strike on the entrants.

Richard Browning, volunteer gardening supremo at Old Hall, used the catastrophe as his starting point and told the entranced Beavers how to grow successful seedlings and defend against future slug attack by organic methods.

It was a busy day in the garden as the winners of the Name the Calf Competition sponsored by HSBC, and organised courtesy of The GEM, were presented with their cash prizes.

The calf, which peeps out of an archway in the garden of St Aubin's Nursery, is now firmly named Snowdrop, thanks to Adam Banks (aged seven) who won the first prize of £50.

Biffa is just one funder aiding the revival of Old Hall Gardens. Creative Rural Communities has been stalwart in its encouragement from the start of the project.

The Vale Council, under its Rural Regeneration initiative, financed the restoration of the town walls and the regeneration of the buildings.

Environment Wales is also a key supporter, granting funds for much of the planting of the garden, restoring the pond and building the pergola for the ancient wisteria, as well as contributing to the leaflets and workbooks.

Gareth Davies, Cowbridge Charter Trust's project officer at Environment Wales, used Old Hall Gardens as a case study to encourage similar groups and wrote as follows: "When not getting drowned by month after month of exceptionally wet weather, the Old Hall Grounds revival project is the perfect example of a beautiful urban garden."

Thanks to the funders described above, Cowbridge Charter Trust has been able to transmute its community projects from dreams to reality: we strongly encourage community groups to do likewise and just go for it – learn the ropes as you go along. If you haven't a group of your own, join us every Thursday morning in Old Hall Gardens between 9.30am-12.30pm and enjoy the pleasures of fresh air and gentle exercise in a lovely setting.

Linda Osborn

Anniversary marked

The Royal British Legion in Llantwit Major is holding a service in St Illtud's Church to mark the 100th anniversary of the date that Great Britain entered the First World War.

All are welcome to attend on August 4 at 7pm and perhaps light a candle to remember when the lights went out all over Europe.

MG

Bridge results

COWBRIDGE and District (Llanblethian) Bridge Club results for Tuesday, July 15:

1st Mary Wallis and Myrtle Hansard 60.83 per cent, 2nd Brenda Grove and Pam Higgs 59.58, 3rd Mearl Owen and Debbie Rosevear 57.20. **ME**

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Rotary award for Lloyd

Rotary president Michael Macphail with Lloyd Bennett.

EACH year, the Rotary Club of Cowbridge invite local primary schools to nominate their outstanding pupils for a Young Citizen award.

President Michael Macphail attended the last school assembly of the year at St David's Primary School in Colwinston to present a special Rotary Young Citizen award to Lloyd Bennett.

A school spokesperson said: "During the school year, Lloyd epitomised everything that we feel children should aspire too. He is naturally courteous, kind and caring with his manners and behaviour at all times immaculate.

"He is such an ambassador for the school, often noted by visitors when he holds open doors, asks if he can be of assistance or just lends a hand."

THE 'ANGEL OF EASTGATE'

I AM disabled and have to use a mobility scooter. Two weeks ago, while turning into Croft Street on the pavement from Eastgate, I was dodging potholes.

I missed one.

I hit it and my scooter, with me on it, tumbled onto the main road. The mobility scooter landed on top of me. I was unable to move.

Five cars swerved around me without stopping to help. Then there was a gap in traffic, and a top-of-the-range dark grey German saloon, of the sort favoured by drug barons, raced down Eastgate at a speed well in excess of 30mph.

Before reaching me, he had his hand on the horn continuously, swerved around me, put his window down and and shouted a stream of foul-mouthed invective as he sped past and carried on his way.

Then rescue. A young teenage girl crossed over the road and helped me. She was an angel. What saddened me was the fact that cars were still swerving past. Not one stopped.

The saviour, once she was satisfied I was safe, carried on with her business without giving me her name.

I thank her.

John Owen, Cowbridge.

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School opening hours to change during summit

by TIM CHAPMAN

SCHOOLS in the Vale have been advised to make adjustments to their times of opening during the NATO summit in early autumn.

The North Atlantic Treaty Organisation is meeting at the Celtic Manor Hotel in Newport from September 4 to 5.

There are likely to be almost 12,000 people attending, including government figures from the 28 member countries, 10,000 support staff and 1,500 media representatives.

Among the topics under consideration will be the crisis in the eastern Ukraine, and developments in Afghanistan.

Cardiff Airport is the arrival point for many of the people attending the summit and the Vale Council has advised schools that there will be increased traffic on routes to the M4 and rolling road blocks will be deployed.

Delegates will start arriving on the afternoon of Wednesday, September 3 and the morning of the next day, and they will leave on the Friday afternoon.

The director of learning and skills at the Vale Council, Jennifer Hill, said: "Given the scale of the event, there will inevitably be some disruption to the transport network in the Vale.

"The Vale Council is working with schools in the county to ensure the impact on children's education is kept to a minimum.

"In the run up to the summit each school is advising parents about the arrangements they have made during the summit.

"Taking account of police advice many schools have decided to alter their start or finishing times when road congestion is likely."

Head teachers will advise parents by letter of the times they will operate.

Local church organist retires

LLANBLETHIAN Church, apart from its regular services, holds many successful events that bring the wider community together.

Our resident organist, Mrs Nic Treharne, is well known for her own playing and for leading various youth groups of instrumentalists in the town.

She has developed a church choir who sing every Sunday and also in other churches in the Benefice of Cowbridge.

Recent musical events include a festival of flowers and music, where Nic and other local musicians played among a blaze of flowers, and a visiting organist and choir sang Passiontide music.

Sadly, Nic is retiring in September after over 30 years' service, and there will be an event to record this occasion.

Meanwhile, the church needs to find a volunteer organist for the 9.15 Sunday Eucharist and other services at holy days, festivals and special events, playing the two-manual organ with pedals. There are fees for weddings, funerals or memorial services and baptisms.

If you would like to become part of our church team by volunteering for this post, you can obtain further information from Canon Belcher, telephone 01446 771625, mobile 07796170671 or by email dgbelcher@gmail.com.

Sue Cox

COMMUNITY NEWS

Your local correspondent is ***NANCY DAVIDGE***
"Tynewydd", Llangan.
(01656) 860303
TREOES, LLANGAN & ST MARY HILL

Rugby player

TWENTY-TWO-year-old Luke Morgan of Graig Penllyne has been selected to play for Wales in the rugby 7s at the Commonwealth Games which will take place on July 27-28 in Glasgow.

Luke's parents Julie and Phil, and his grandparents Fay and Brian Manning of Treoes, are extremely proud of Luke's selection in representing Wales!

Young at Heart

ON Thursday, July 17 which was the last of the summer meetings of the Young at Heart Club members enjoyed a coach trip to Llantwit Major for a stroll around the town and refreshments.

They went to the Blue Anchor restaurant for lunch. Once again a big thank you to Anne Ellis and Barbara for their organisational skills in making everything run so smoothly.

The club meetings will resume in the beginning of September.

Unfortunately, club member Sylvia Mordicae became unwell and was admitted to the Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend. I am sure everyone at the club will join me in wishing Sylvia a speedy return to good health.

Saron Chapel

THE service which was held at Saron on Sunday 21st was rather unusual with the Rev Philip Denier failing to arrive to conduct the service.

Everyone was concerned as to his wellbeing. It was decided to carry on with the service. Local resident Lorraine West introduced the hymns, the music was provided by Joan Ollyson. It was quite an enjoyable service!

Praise for the Market Theatre

LAST week, I greatly enjoyed *The 39 Steps,* adapted by Patrick Barlow, at the Market Theatre Cowbridge.

The house was totally packed and the director, Peter Sain Ley Berry steered the ship of actors through the production.

Rachel Arentsen and Lloyd Lee led the company, but individual excellence was on display from Jeff Grist, playing a number of characters, and from Peter Knapp and Barbara Lee.

We should not forget Anthony Murphy as Mr Memory and Suzanne Massey, and also Jim Grove, Andy Cragg, Barbara Lee for their work behind the scenes, and the musical contribution of Elisabeth Elliot.

Karl-James Langford.

Pontyclun Primary wins £1,500 worth of equipment in science competition

PONTYCLUN Primary School recently won £1,500 worth of science equipment in a competition organised by Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water.

Nicola Price and Sharon Phillips from Welsh Water present the cheque to pupils from Pontyclun Primary School

Local customer Fiona Fallen entered the competition by pledging her support online for Welsh Water's 'Let's Stop the Block' campaign, winning science equipment for a school of her choice.

Welsh Water launched the competition last year in conjunction with its sewer abuse campaign, which educates its customers about the problems associated with putting the wrong things down the toilets and drains.

The company currently tackles approximately 2,000 blockages each month caused by items such as cotton buds, wet wipes, fats and oils.

Andy Harris, head of wastewater networks at Welsh Water, presented the cheque to pupils at Pontyclun Primary School during an assembly which was followed by a hands-on workshop with pupils from years-5 and 6 at the school on the same theme.

Sharon Phillips, peripatetic education officer at Welsh Water, who delivered the workshop said: "The workshops are a fun and interactive opportunity to educate our future customers about the issues associated with sewer abuse.

"We hope that by teaching pupils at a young age, this important message will stay with them for life, resulting in fewer problems in the future."

Hugh Roberts, headteacher at Pontyclun Primary School, said: "We are really excited to have won this competition and would like to thank Welsh Water and Fiona Fallen for nominating our school. The campaign is a fantastic way to raise awareness of this ongoing issue so we'll do all we can in school to promote the message."

'Let LDP inquiry decide on Ystradowen housing allocation' GEM READER

THE letter (GEM, July 17) from Paula Bailey, owner of Church Farm, raises important issues about the development of Ystradowen.

It is suggested that the recent Church Farm windfall planning application to build 25 houses in the south-west of the village will help to restore some 'balance' to housing development in Ystradowen in view of the proposed 85 LDP allocation in its north-east.

In a sense this is true: if the Vale Council planning committee approves this application, it will start a series of planning applications which, over time, will match the excessive LDP development proposed by the council at the other end of the village!

This will be even more likely if the council is allowed by the LDP inspector to scrap our settlement boundary.

The merging of Ystradowen, Trerhyngyll, Maendy and Prisk then becomes a distinct possibility.

It is stated that the owner does not wish to increase the level of housing in Ystradowen, but is offering Church Farm as an alternative LDP site to the remaining two LDP unapproved sites off Sandy Lane, in order to reduce prospective housing numbers.

That is clearly an important point: in which case, why has the owner not awaited the council's decision in early 2016 as to whether they would wish take up this offer, which could then be decided by the LDP Inspector?

We have been content, along with many other residents and landowners, to wait for the LDP Inspector's quasi-judicial inquiry in 2015-16 for a decision on the *appropriate* scale of housing for the village.

The suggestion is made that the campaign group is against any development in Ystradowen. This is untrue, as we have consistently campaigned for proportionate, sustainable housing development in the village following due process and assessment by the LDP Inspector.

However, as readers may recall, the council in March 2014, using a planning loophole, approved within five minutes, and without question, a premature planning application to build 40 houses on one of the LDP sites.

It is our view that that the site owner should, like the campaign, await the LDP Inspector's inquiry and respect the outcome in terms of the remaining LDP allocated and alternative sites.

The current windfall application should be withdrawn until that outcome is known.

Andrew Loyns, chair, Fair Deal for Ystradowen Campaign.

Jail for man (33) who threatened his partner

by AJ SICLUNA

AN enraged man threatened his partner's life during a heated row, Cardiff Crown Court has heard.

Brendon Ness (33) of Belvedere Crescent, Barry, was jailed for a total of nine months.

He had admitted charges of assaulting Sally Crabtree, and theft, and was also in breach of a suspended sentence for supplying drugs.

Judge David Hale told him: "A suspended sentence means what it says, and you leave me with no option but to impose a custodial sentence. Never do anything as stupid again."

Prosecutor David Thomas said that at about 5pm on May 3, police went to a domestic disturbance in Barry. Ness could be heard shouting: "Give me the ****ing Valium, or I'll lay you out."

Miss Crabtree was present and was crying as Ness shouted abuse at her.

She said: "Get him out, look what he's done to me."

Miss Crabtree had suffered a cut lip. He had a scram mark on his neck.

She told the police that Ness, her boyfriend, had grabbed her, punched her and said: "I'm going to ****ing kill you."

Later, Ness said that she had punched him, and as a result he had acted in self-defence.

On May 10, said Mr Thomas, Ness stole a laptop computer and a mobile phone charger from a parked van. Police tracked it to a computer shop in Barry, and arrested Ness with the computer.

He said: "I've just bought it from a mate."

The court heard that in October last year, the police went to an address in Barry and found Ness in possession of heroin worth £1,550. He had a previous conviction for stealing copper wire.

In addition to the prison sentence, he was ordered to pay a victim surcharge of £100.

VILLAGERS RAISE FUNDS IN FOND MEMORY OF CAPTAIN TOM CLARKE

by PHILIP IRWIN

The Minnesingers Male Chorus were one of the acts at the fundraising evening in memory of Captain Tom Clarke.

THE tragic death of Captain Tom Clarke from Cowbridge, who was killed in a helicopter crash in Afghanistan in April, touched people in the Vale deeply.

In the aftermath, villagers in Miskin decided to do something to honour his memory, and set about raising funds for the Army Benevolent Fund (ABF).

Two local women who stepped forward to organise an event were Sue Palmer and Deb Thomas. Deb was particularly keen to do something as she was a friend of Tom's family.

They approached the landlords of the Miskin Arms, Colin Ferris and Wayne Dalton, with plans for an evening's entertainment at the pub, and they readily agreed.

Local band RHM, made up of vocalist Hollie Willis, guitarist Ralph Evans, and Malc Charnley on keyboards, offered their services for free.

Indeed, they were prepared to play a long set, starting around 8pm and finishing at 10.30pm.

Sue and Deb were looking for another act to keep everyone entertained until midnight, and they were delighted when the Minnesingers Male Chorus – a locally-based choir – stepped forward to do a late night shift.

Meryn Williams, the musical director of the Minnesingers, said that the choir had been formed about 12 years ago, and had been delighted to perform for such a cause.

Miskin, after all, was a little closer to home than their previous concert – in Valencia!

The evening proved to be a great success and, as a result, Colonel Kevin Davies, the Deputy Commander of 160 (Wales) Brigade in Brecon, met the group at the Miskin Arms to receive a cheque for £610.

He thanked the group for their efforts, adding that, as a Cowbridge resident himself, he was only too aware of the impact of the tragedy.

Another of the crash victims, Lance Corporal Oliver Thomas, also had strong family connections in the Vale.

Col Davies talked about the work done by the Army Benevolent Fund, and explained how it helped to fund other Forces' charities, in particular SSAFA and Combat Stress.

The Minnesingers came along to perform after the cheque was handed over, and Deb Thomas said: "It was great that they came along tonight. Our thanks go to them, and also to Colin and Wayne letting us use the Miskin Arms.

"Finally, I would like to thank Sue Palmer. She started the ball rolling and has worked so hard to make it all happen."

Fun day reaches its £1,000 goal!

ON Saturday, July 5, the Graig and Penllyn World Cup Family Fun Day at the Winchfield in Graig Penllyn reached its aim of raising over £1,000 for a new goal post and nets.

The fundraising was part of the efforts to maintain and improve the village facilities. The event was organised by the Joint Residents Association and Village Hall Committees and was kindly kicked off by Vale AM Jane Hutt.

It was an enjoyable day with a barbecue, stalls, glitter tattoos, face painting, a bouncy castle, skills challenges and games for all ages. Local policemen Steve and Rhys helped youngsters to be boys and girls in blue for the day, while Rhys even offered himself for target practice in our famous village stocks.

A highlight was Lars Tiessen, the chair of the residents' association, being sponsored to have his head shaved all in the good cause.

The razor was expertly wielded by Ben of Marley's Barbers in Cowbridge.

The south Wales melodic rock group Orca provided great live music to close the day. Thanks go to all those organising and supporting this successful event. **PS**

RNLI LIFEGUARDS ARE BACK!

The Vale RNLI lifeguard team.

RNLI lifeguards have returned to their posts at Llantwit Major and Ogmore beaches in the Vale to offer safety advice and assistance over the school summer holidays.

The charity's lifeguards in the Vale have already been busy this summer as they help ensure the public's safety on Whitmore Bay and Southerndown beach. RNLI lifeguards will be back to provide a daily safety cover between 10am to 6pm at both Ogmore and Llanwit Major until September 7.

Stuart Thompson, RNLI lifeguard manager said: "The lifeguards have all completed their training and are looking forward to returning to their posts for the summer season. Ninety-five per cent of the role is preventative but RNLI lifeguards are highly trained and are equipped to deal with everything from locating missing children and treating minor cuts and grazes, through to performing major first-aid and lifesaving rescues."

Stuart added: "Last year, the beaches were very busy with everyone making the most of the hot weather but come rain or shine, we'll be there keeping watch again this summer."

RNLI lifeguards responded to 329 incidents, rescued 30 people and saved six lives on Vale beaches last year. The warm weather resulted in a busy year for Welsh RNLI lifeguards last year as they responded to 1,761 incidents and assisted 1,940 members of the public – 36 per cent more than the previous summer – across 32 of the country's busiest beaches.

Bridge results

VALE of Glamorgan bridge results for July 21:

North/South - 1st Mike Best & David Birt 78.27 per cent, 2nd John Evans & Steve Burgoyne 65.48, 3rd Mary Lougher & Margaret Gough 47.62.

East/West- 1st Trish Roe & Julia Evans 57.14, 2nd Vida Halford & Glyn Williams 55.36, 3rd Alan Lewis & Terry Evans 52.38. **LE**

Choir boosts local parish funds

TARANTARA, a mixed choir from Stratford on Avon visited Colwinston on July 12 to perform a concert in aid of the Parish of Colwinston with Llandow and Llysworney.

The choir has raised money for charities over the years and perform all over the country and abroad.

Under the musical direction of their conductor Jonathan Hill and with accompaniment from Chris Long, they sang a varied programme of songs from the musicals, a Beach Boys' medley, African ballads and opera arias.

The audience gave them a standing ovation and were reluctant to let them go.

The evening raised an amazing £840 for parish funds and we hope that the choir will make a return trip to Wales in the not so distant future. **KJ**

Young farmers demonstrate their incisive debating skills

Debating team national champions (left to right): Kay Lewis-Thomas, Bethan Rees, Beth John, Lowri Davies, trainer Kevin Thomas and Helen Joseph.

MEMBERS of Glamorgan Federation of Young Farmers Clubs recently competed at the National Public Speaking Finals in Staffordshire – and they did not disappoint.

A team of five ladies took to the stage to debate current affairs. Their preparation and responses gained the attention of the judge and they were repaid with being crowned the national champions!

Also competing was Gelligaer member, Carwyn Roberts, who represented the county and Wales YFC in the 'Situations Vacant' competition, achieving a remarkable first place.

The Royal Welsh Show in Builth Wells has been the focus for members this week as they have taken part in a variety of competitions such as cookery, floral, rugby, stage performances, along with stewarding duties, while enjoying the overall experience of the event.

This year, Glamorgan county is celebrating its 75th anniversary and to mark the special occasion, there is a gala dinner at the Brangwyn Hall in Swansea on September 6. *Tickets are £4 and are available until August 1 from Laura Elliott by email ljelliott88@hotmail.co.uk or telephone 07540 469016.*

Situations Vacant national champion, Carwyn Roberts

Slice of Barry TV history is up for sale

by TIM CHAPMAN

***RIGHT:** Estate agent Alex Easton has been given the task of selling one of Barry's best-known properties – a house featured in the hit TV show Gavin and Stacey.*

A landmark Barry building, familiar across the globe thanks to being featured regularly on TV, is up for sale.

The terraced house on Trinity Street is owned by Glenda Kenyon and its claim to fame is that it is Stacey's house – Stacey, that is, from the hit show *Gavin and Stacey*.

Over the years, Glenda has welcomed film crews and fans with equal warmth to her terraced home, but she has decided the time is right to move.

She told The GEM: "Since the filming of *Gavin and Stacey*, I have welcomed over 13,000 visitors to the house, including organised coach tours on a weekly basis.

"I will miss both the street and Barry, but plan to move to Swansea.

"I have discussed marketing with my agent, Alex Easton, and we intend to announce an open day shortly."

Alex Easton of Barry and Dinas Powys Estate Agents, Burnett Davies & Easton said it provided a "unique opportunity" to capture a prime piece of television history.

"We are pleased to have been appointed on such a high profile property by the real life resident, Glenda Kenyon.

"Although the house will be marketed to a wider audience, it will certainly offer a fan of the show, a unique opportunity to acquire a small piece of television history.

"It also offers a potential business opportunity for someone wanting to continue the frequent tours but unlike Glenda, charge visitors.

"The two double-bedroom house is deceptively spacious and includes a very pleasant, south-facing courtyard with elevated views across the old docks and Barry Island."

The house will be offered at a guide price of £125,000 and dependent upon interest, Burnett Davies and Easton may look to draw the sale to a close by way of 'best bids'.

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Fees can be reclaimed even if the person who received the care has since passed away.

If the primary reason for the person receiving care was a health issue then the NHS should have paid the care home fees.

The care home fees wrongly paid are often very substantial.

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School looks back on a busy performing year

Cowbridge Comprehensive Performing Arts round-up

OVER the last academic year, the performing arts department at Cowbridge Comprehensive School has been working very hard to support its students in all areas of the performing arts.

Students have taken part in the musical *Annie*, sung in vocal groups and played in concert band and jazz groups.

Younger pupils who belong to the extra-curricular performing arts club have enjoyed a monologue evening and took part in the recent summer concert. Our pupils are certainly busy and thriving in an environment where the arts and creativity are valued.

In the next academic year, we plan to perform the musical *Chicago* and take part in the Shakespeare Festival.

Lunchtime and evening concerts, as well as examination performance evenings, will also be an important part of the school calendar.

One of the things that pupils really enjoy are the inter-generation lunches, where the older members of the community come into our school and work with pupils on projects such as poetry readings, choral and text work.

Pupils have learnt a lot from the senior members of our community and it has led to some really inspiring work.

There is a summer school at Cowbridge Comprehensive for a week beginning July 28. Participants can perfect their performance skills under the guidance of fully qualified and CRB checked teachers of the performing arts. This summer school is open to everyone between 7 and 16. *More information is available on the school website www.cowbridgecomprehensiveschool.co.uk or www.vypperformingartsschool.moonfruit.com.*

AC

Southerndown provides a real captain's day test

ABOVE: Mrs Caroline Kelly and Mrs Val King at the halfway house with Dai Llewelllyn, Robbie Llewellyn, Andrew Thomas and Tim Jarvis.

GLORIOUS sunshine, rock hard fairways, reasonably quick greens, hip high ferns and gorse bushes that accounted for a record breaking 96 lost balls were the main talking points at the 19th hole last Thursday, when 40 members of the Glamorgan Farmers' Golf Society gathered to enjoy their captain's day fixture at Southerndown golf club.

In addition the employment of Mr Eric Bermingham as official starter, and also to make sure everyone adhered to the dress code expected at such a prestigious golf club, was a reassuring sign, with just two slightly embarrassed members advised to consider shopping elsewhere!

On such a warm day, the opportunity of visiting the halfway house to enjoy splendid refreshments and drinks, served by Mrs Val King, the wife of society captain Mike King, ably assisted by local member Mrs Caroline Kelly, was also much appreciated.

At the conclusion of play just two points separated those at the top of the leader board, with Glyn Watts-Jones, playing on his home course and the favourite prior to the start of play, having to settle for third place after scoring 33 stableford points.

Andrew Thomas once again demonstrated his well-defined competitive edge to take second place with 34 points, leaving Tony McCarthy, with 35, to make a rare appearance in the winners' enclosure to collect the captain's prize from generous sponsor Mike King.

Clive Thomas's contribution to the high number of lost balls was rewarded with a bottle of whiskey, kindly donated by sponsor Premier Turf Ltd that also raised £100 for the nominated charity.

Nearest the pins on the Llanerch Vineyard and Restaurant sponsored par-3 holes were Bryan Wadham, Neil McLean, Trevor Wooding and Dan Jarvis, while Godfrey Lewis continued his rich vein of form to hit the longest drive of the day down the 18th to win the Bear Hotel, Cowbridge sponsored prize.

This followed Godfrey's success the previous day when he won the longest drive prize when competing in the seniors open at Cottrell Park Golf Club, and also his success the previous week when winning the over-70 section at the Ross-on-Wye seniors' open.

Members are now focusing on the annual pairs' competition, scheduled for Thursday, July 31, at Langland Bay Golf Club, kindly sponsored by the Maes Glas veterinary group.

T McC

Council defends work on huts as project faces criticism over summer delays

by GEM REPORTER

THE Vale Council has defended work going on at the Eastern Promenade in Barry after a local councillor said it was an embarrassment that the huts hadn't been ready for the summer season.

Coun Richard Bertin said that if the huts were not going to be ready, then the money should have been spent elsewhere – only for the Vale Council's Lis Burnett to express surprise because she believed he had effectively endorsed the venture by making suggestions regarding the huts.

Coun Bertin said: "How much of an embarrassment it is for the Labour-led Vale Council for the beach huts not to be ready for this summer season.

"This now means that these huts will not bring in revenue, jobs as well as benefits for tourists this year and questions now must be asked on what has gone wrong.

"I personally feel the money could have been better spent elsewhere and agree with the majority of the general public who feel they are a waste of money.

"We need strong leadership and so far we have seen very little. It is time this council got its act together!"

Coun Lis Burnett, who is responsible for regeneration in the Vale, said at no stage had she received an official objection from Coun Bertin.

"I was extremely surprised to hear Coun Bertin's comments, particularly as in an email message in May he made suggestions for the use of the beach huts, but made no criticism of the scheme itself.

"To my knowledge, there have been no official objections received from him in relation to the beach huts at any stage of their development."

Coun Burnett did acknowledge that project delays had been frustrating, adding: "The weather and topography of the site have posed a challenge and only today (Monday this week) I was discussing the 25-metre long soil-nails that have been necessary to stabilise the earth above the amphitheatre.

"Few can fail to see the scale and impact of the initiative and increasing numbers of people have contacted me to say how excited they are about the project, and how it will transform a previously derelict promenade.

"We are now within touching distance of the scheme's completion and I am receiving daily progress updates from the contractors.

"We refuse to compromise on quality as the new promenade will provide happy memories for future generations of visitors to Barry Island."

Liam's dream is now sound reality!

A BARRY teenager has been given £300 funding by 'O2 Think Big' to offer free entertainment services to charities and free sound workshops for other young people.

Liam Turner (17) is the brains behind KL Parties – which aims to teach local young people sound engineering at no cost, while providing free sound system services for charity functions.

Liam, a gymnastics coach at Barry YMCA, learned sound engineering skills as a volunteer at Bro Radio.,

Young people can email info@klparties.co.uk for more information.

'Dictionaries to Schools' scheme sees local school pupils benefit

LAST Wednesday, two members of Dinas Powys Rotary Club, David Wilshire and Ged Crosby, attended the school assembly of St Andrews School, Dinas Powys to present the school with dictionaries.

Rotarian Ged said: "We are proud to announce that the club organised a successful donation of dictionaries to the schools in Dinas Powys, this project is part of 'Dictionary 4 Life.'

"We very much hope that these books will accompany the children for many years to come."

The Usborne Illustrated Dictionary 4 Life comprises 1,000 illustrations, 10,000 entries and 20,000 definitions printed in full colour and contains 288 pages.

At the end of the project's sixth year – 2012-2013 – 480,000 dictionaries have been distributed by over 500 Rotary clubs from all 29 RIBI Rotary Districts and many overseas countries.

The project is just one example of the excellent work Dinas Powys Rotary Club is doing in the area and if you wish to be part of this active and exciting club then check out our web site *www.rotaryclubofdinaspowys.co.uk* for details and contact form.

BETH MAKES HER RETURN TO PORTHCAWL

FOLLOWING her gruelling, yet uplifting three weeks in Hannover (see Caroline Sarll's report on pages 22 and 23), cancer patient Beth Margetson from Porthcawl, has now returned to Wales in fighting spirit:

"I have bought myself a zip-up sauna from the internet, which is like a pop-up tent. As soon as I get home, I'll be zipping myself into it and continuing my own form of heat treatment. Sweating is the way forward!"

Caroline reports: "Since my return last week, Beth has sent me several buoyant texts and emails, ranging from her excitement at being in Hannover when Germany won the World Cup, to the minor disaster of almost losing her friend, Linda Thompson at the station on the way to Berlin.

"Beth remains furious at the treatment she has received in Wales and is adamant that she will continue her fight – to beat her cancer and to change health care in Wales – on her return"

Beth said: "I'm not just doing this for me, but for everyone".

In a few weeks time, you will be able to hear a report on Beth's German trip on BBC Radio Wales. Beth will be appearing as a guest a few weeks later.

Caroline added: "I would like to thank KLM for their generosity in sponsoring my flights to Hannover. Without their support, I would have been unable to cover this vital story".

Ramblers tread in footsteps of Romans

GERAINT and his sheepdog Patch decided to take the group on a route from the book 'Walking in the South Wales Valleys' by local author and Penarth resident Mike Dunn, which would see them walking through areas relating to Roman times, and culminating in a visit to the splendid Melincourt waterfall.

The Gnoll Estate Country Park was first on the list which was originally gifted to the earls of Pembroke by Queen Elizabeth I and although the house was demolished in 1957, restoration work has been carried out by the local authority resulting in a splendid country park.

The peaceful Victorian Mosshouse Wood reservoir, built towards the end of the 19th century, was next in its woodland setting, before they continued on to the remains of the Ivy Tower built by the Mackworth family as a viewing point.

Then, passing through the temporary marching camp at Blaen-Cwm-Bach which held thousands of soldiers in the Roman era, they entered Pelenna Forest before descending to view the stunning Melincourt waterfall which cascades 80 feet into the valley below and which was painted by Turner back in 1794.

Pathways beside the Neath Canal led them back to Neath Castle for the short climb back to their start.

The last evening walk took in the delights of the new kissing gates which have been installed between Dinas Powys village and Michaelston-le-Pit, and setting off with leader Val on a lovely evening the group tramped various streets in the village before entering the Millfield to make their way through grassy meadows and fields of maize on the journey towards Michaelston.

At the old stone bridge over the Cadoxton River a calamity occurred when Alfie the dog, who was accompanying the leader, dashed off across the fields.

The walk eventually continued minus the leader, who set about searching, and the return journey with Sue at the helm was made via the lovely beech wood at Cwm George and across part of Dinas Powys golf course.

Alfie was found after his bid for freedom!

On July 26, meet 9am at Cogan Leisure Centre for an eight-mile hard walk taking in Sugar Loaf Mountain; contact Liz on 029 2051 3698.

On July 27, meet 9am at Cogan for a 10-mile moderate walk from Trellech taking in stunning woodland in the Wye Valley and pretty meadows; contact Nick on 01446 420540.

To follow the group please log onto www.penarthramblers.wordpress.com Programmes and membership advice can be obtained from Pam on 029 2025 5102.

Joy Strangward

'SELFIES' IN AN ARTISTIC WAY AT LOCAL FESTIVAL

Selfies the original way – with a pencil – are on offer from artist Richard O'Connell during Barry Holiday Festival.

Richard will be helping budding artists to draw their own portraits at two free workshops.

He will guide those who want to have a go but is also offering to draw free portraits of those who prefer to sit for the professional.

Richard, a member of Vale of Glamorgan Artists, said: "Drawing is about having a go – you've got to start somewhere.

"Help is at hand for those who need it. Bottom line – you must have fun when you are drawing and it is never boring."

The workshops will be held at Barry Travellers' Gallery on Barry Railway Station in the cafe which is open to the general public with access from the street.

An exhibition of work, including paintings, textiles and ceramics by VOGA artists, is also on show in the cafe gallery.

Workshops will run from 1pm to 3pm on Tuesday, July 29 and Wednesday, July 30.

Just turn up – materials will be provided. Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult.

Barry Holiday Festival runs from July 26 to August 2 and VOGA's art exhibition continues until August 8.

Wartime museum gets ready for the Great War centenary

LAST weekend, the Glamorgan Wartime Heritage Centre at Barry Island Railway unveiled new exhibits to commemorate the centenary of the outbreak of the Great War.

These included a life-sized voluntary aid detachment nurse, a model of a Great War battlefield and a display board telling the story of former Royal Flying Corps pilot, Flt Lt Bill Bassett.

Barry at War chair Ade Pitman explained: "As people enjoyed the unusually hot summer weather on the beaches around Barry, Europe was poised on the edge of a catastrophic war.

"Indeed, it is a little-known fact that some of the first shots of the war were actually fired from Barry - capturing German freighters destined for Cardiff docks.

"There were no radio sets fitted to merchant vessels back then and the luckless crews had no idea that war had broken out.

"By mid-September 1914, many vessels had been stopped under the guns at Nell's Point, with over 200 German seamen being detained.

"Barry at War has been planning for the centenary of the Great War for over a year now, and donations from visitors have enabled us to purchase some more displays.

"Our life-sized voluntary aid detachment nurse represents one of hundreds of these women who helped to run the Red Cross hospitals around Barry during the Great War.

"There is a lot of information on the excellent website by Tom Clements on these hospitals, and we have a memorial plaque in the museum from one of them.

"Our display about Flt Lt Bill Bassett celebrates the close links that Barry at War have with local Cadet organisations, as this former Royal Flying Corps pilot, who was shot down over France, was responsible for establishing Barry's Air Training Corps Squadron.

"Finally, our Great War battlefield model is nearly a metre long, and is designed to highlight the differences in uniforms and technology between the early part of the Great War and its conclusion.

"As funds allow, the display will become more interactive, with display panels giving information about the things going on in the diorama.

"As with all of Barry at War owned exhibits, these items are available on loan to schools or heritage groups, and many will feature in a display at Barry Library shortly. Volunteers from Barry at War will also be supporting the Porthcawl Great War event on August 2–3."

The Glamorgan Wartime Heritage Centre is located at Barry Island Railway Station, and is open Wednesday afternoons from 2pm–4pm.

It will also be open on Sunday, August 10, and for the Wartime Weekend on August 30-31. To find out more about Barry's wartime museum, see the website at www.wartimeglamorgan.co.uk or call Ade Pitman on 07930 874161.

Charity support

Y BONT, which supports 150 disabled children and their families, has been 'adopted' by Sainsbury's Bridgend as its charity for the year.

Staff will be fundraising at an event in store on Friday, August 8 between 11am–3pm.

The Bridgend store, situated in The Derwen, last year raised £7,165.50 for Healing the Wounds to help support families of personnel with post-traumatic stress disorder.

Marged Griffiths from Y Bont said: "We know the success that the local charity partnership has bought to many charities in Bridgend, so when we received the news, we were thrilled. We hope the partnership will help raise awareness of our cause to the store's customers and will help us develop the important service we provide to the community."

Charities are 'touched'

RECENTLY, the Touched by Cancer Charity distributed cash raised at the sponsored walk in October 2013.

It was the fourth annual walk, and thanks to the massive support received locally, donations totalling £11,000 were distributed between The Sandville, LATCH, Velindre Hospital and Macmillan.

Coun Megan Butcher said: "Since the first walk in 2010, local people and businesses have raised approximately £35,000 for organisations supporting cancer sufferers and their families in many different ways. It couldn't happen without your help and support so on behalf of the organisers and recipients we would like to say thank you so much!"

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FUW members are in training for charity walk around Wales!

AS previously reported in The GEM, members of the Farmers' Union of Wales in Cowbridge and the Vale will be joining a marathon charity challenge later this year!

Some of the walkers recently took a break from their training and assembled outside the Cowbridge offices of the FUW.

FUW members and friends are planning to cover all 871 miles of the Wales Coast Path during a huge sponsored walk event to raise funds for children's charities Tŷ Hafan and Tŷ Gobaith – and they plan to do it in just two days!

To do this, teams of walkers will start simultaneously on Saturday and Sunday (September 13 and 14).

At the end of the weekend the various teams will have walked the entire Wales Coastal Path!

The two children's charities have been chosen by FUW president Emyr Jones, and more than £11,000 has already been raised.

Mr Jones said: "Walks have been organised for all sections of the coast path, varying in length from three to 16 miles, and we will require about 90 teams to help us meet our target.

"We invite anyone willing and able to join us for this exciting fundraising event to let their local FUW county office know as soon as possible. Pre-registration is essential, due to the nature of the event."

To pre-register, contact the local county office at 58, Eastgate, Cowbridge (telephone 01446 774838).

ABOVE: Some of the FUW walkers, pictured in Cowbridge.

Police clampdown on violent crime

POLICE have launched new initiatives to tackle violent crime in the Vale and Bridgend county borough.

Chief Inspector Jason James, the officer coordinating the measures, said: "Tactics such as introducing plastic glasses in pubs, challenging ID when purchasing alcohol and introducing procedures in partnership with licenced premises, have all proved successful.

"Reducing violent incidents, especially those causing injury, will continue to be a priority for South Wales Police and our partners. These crimes cause immeasurable distress to victims and impact heavily on the wellbeing of our local communities."

He added: "A high proportion of violent incidents are alcohol-related and officers across Bridgend and the Vale have been working hard to reduce offences which impact people wishing to enjoy a night out.

"We are urging people to drink responsibly, to stay safe and to keep out of trouble through our 'Violence is a Crime' campaign".

Anyone with information regarding violent crime is asked to call South Wales Police on 101. Alternatively, contact Crimestoppers FREE on 0800 555 111 or email www.crimestoppers-uk.org/give-information

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VALE MP's VIEWPOINT

'My appointment as Welsh Minister and Whip is a privilege'

Vale MP Alun Cairns reports to GEM readers

IN David Cameron's reshuffle, I was made a Government Minister. In fact, I was given two roles, the first as a Minister in the Wales Office and the second as a Government Whip.

I feel truly privileged to have been given these opportunities but I am determined to remain as active in Barry and across the rest of the Vale as I have always been.

When ministerial appointments are made, there is no notice or 'tip off'. I was in Parliament at a meeting with an energy company about their plans for a project in Barry.

During that meeting, I had a text from the No 10 switch board, asking me to call an official who is based at Downing Street. When I called, I was asked to meet the Prime Minister in half an hour's time.

The appointment process is formal. I was invited to the Cabinet Room, where the Prime Minister reads out the role and sets out his priorities.

Many have asked whether it is reminiscent of 'Yes, Minister'. I suppose it is fair to say that there were some similarities but hopefully that's where they end!

Since then I feel as though my feet haven't touched the ground but it has all been relevant to us here in the Vale.

My first task was related to the Armed Forces' Covenant. There was a meeting between Ministers from a range of government departments and a host of Armed Forces representatives.

The Government made commitments to help and support our servicemen and women and veterans in areas such as health and housing needs, as well as to support those leaving the services.

This was a meeting to establish progress and to agree where additional focus needs to be given. This is absolutely relevant to our local heroes.

The following day, I needed to present a briefing on the NATO Summit to the members of the South Wales Chamber of Commerce.

The NATO summit will be the largest conference or summit that the UK has ever held. There will be 70 world leaders and a similar number of Foreign Ministers, Defence Ministers, and their Defence Chiefs.

A total of 24,000 hotel room have been booked between Swansea and Bristol for delegates, journalists and others. The eyes of the world will be on south Wales.

It is vital that we make the most of this opportunity. Local businesses rightly wanted to know how they could capitalise on the event.

On Saturday the threat of storms came to the fore. There were telephone conference calls between various Ministers, government agencies and associated businesses to prioritise and confirm that all contingency actions were set in the right places to respond to the risks of floods and power breakdown. All went to plan.

Then, earlier this week, we launched the National Citizen Service in Cardiff to encourage young people to volunteer and offer new opportunities.

These were enlightening experiences, which gave me the first insight to the internal workings of government decision making. The proactive nature impressed me.

At the same time, I was determined that my local activity here in the Vale would continue.

Therefore, Saturday involved an early meeting with a Barry business looking to expand, opening a family fun day at Cadoxton and visiting two other summer fairs - one at Barry Rugby Club and the other at Llandow.

It is also important that I continue my regular programme of door knocking to establish local feedback and issues and to offer help.

All in all, it is an absolute privilege and delight to have been appointed to these roles. I plan to continue to serve local communities in a more effective way.

CARDIFF CROWN COURT REPORT by AJ SICLUNA

Man (56) escapes jail sentence for child porn

CHILDREN aged between 10 and 14 were seen on pornographic material when the police searched a flat in Barry.

Gareth Hardwick (56) of Spring Street, Barry, was said to have been "living in squalor".

Hardwick had been convicted by Cardiff magistrates of 10 offences involving possessing indecent images of children, and making indecent images.

A man with no previous convictions, he was sentenced to a community order of three years, involving a supervision order for that period and he was also directed to take part in a sex offenders' programme.

Judge David Hale said: "In many ways, this is a sad man living in squalor. He needs assistance and support."

He told Hardwick: "You must understand these are not victimless crimes. Some children somewhere have been subjected to horrendous experiences.

"I've seen these images, and it was a totally upsetting experience. I'm prepared to give you one chance."

Prosecutor Ieuan Bennett said Hardwick didn't have physical contact with any of the children and didn't share images or distribute them with anyone else.

He said the offences were discovered when the police went to his home and examined his computer.

A total of 38 images were found, some in the highest category A and some as low as C. The children, said Mr Bennett, were aged between 10 and 14. He said that Hardwick led a lonely lifestyle and he accepted to the police he "had something of a problem".

His solicitor, Christopher Evans, said: "He is willing to face up to everything and he is motivated."

He was ordered to register as a sex offender for five years, and he was made subject to a Sexual Offences Prevention Order for five years.

The judge ordered that the computer be destroyed.

Local man (24) had extreme pornography on home computer

A CLEANER has been given a community order at Cardiff Crown Court after admitting possessing pornographic images on his computer.

When 24-year-old Owen Roberts was arrested, he grabbed a knife and threatened to kill himself, said prosecutor Hash Salman.

Roberts, of Barry Road, Barry, had been convicted by Cardiff Magistrates of 16 offences involving possessing indecent images and possessing extreme pornographic images.

He was sentenced to a community order for three years involving a three-year supervision order.

He was also ordered to register as a sex offender for five years, pay £200 costs, plus a victim surcharge of £100, and to observe a Sexual Offences Prevention Order.

Judge David Hale told him: "You've only got one chance at this. If you come back for anything like this, you go to prison – do you understand?"

He added: "Someone somewhere went through agony to provide you with this material."

Mr Salman said the offences were discovered on January 31, when police searched his home.

There were 167 images and 25 movies.

The police were alerted, said Mr Salman, after discovering Roberts' credit card information.

Roberts said: "I have a problem. I've been downloading images and I need help.

"My life is ending, and I'm going to kill myself."

With that, said Mr Salman, he grabbed a knife. Fortunately, the police persuaded him to put it down.

His solicitor, Ann Griffiths, said: "He suffers from depression, and in the past self-harmed.

"His response when arrested was a cry for help. He did not distribute any of the images."

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It's been a crazy few months for Cloudy2Clear Windows. The company which specialises in repairing windows which are steamed up, broken or damaged by replacing the panes – not the frames has grown rapidly as homeowners take advantage of their services.

Branch Manager Phil Powell feels that it's all about service. 'Our product is simple. If your double glazing is misted up we can replace the glass at a fraction of the cost of a new window, in any type of frame, and with a new 5 year guarantee. But it's not just about saving people money, although that obviously helps. Many tradespeople have struggled since last year and I honestly feel that during the good times a minority perhaps didn't focus on customer care as much as they should have done. We make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle. I often get comments back from customers on how they really didn't expect that sort of service which, in a way, is very sad for the service industry as a whole.'

Cloudy2Clear service the Vale, Bridgend, RCT and Porthcawl areas and Phil is finding that his approach is a major factor in his success. 'The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people I've done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated.'

So, if your windows are steamed up, broken or damaged give Phil a call for a free quotation on **0800 61 21 118** and he'll be happy to help!

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Gileston 'Best kept Village'!

AT a special awards evening last week, the winners of the 2014 Vale of Glamorgan Best Kept Village Competition were announced by chief judge, Morfudd Meredith.

Morfudd said: "I spent a wonderful day visiting the villages and the overall standard of competition was very high.

"Each village had worked so hard and they all looked wonderful.

"It was a very close competition but the winner was Gileston, with Llanmaes coming second and Wenvoe coming third."

The John Curteis Special Feature was awarded to Ystradowen who had transformed a lay-by into a lovely garden and had recently sited an oak bench dedicated to Betty Lever.

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Damage at hall

LEFT: The centre's new sign was damaged over the weekend.

THE Witchill Community Hall off Dyfan Road in Barry has suffered an act of criminal damage and the police have been informed.

Sue and Dave Illman of the 2nd/4th Barry Scout Group told The GEM: "The hall is close to being finished and had just had a lovely sign put up by ABCDesigns which cost a lot of money. It was vandalized over the weekend, totally ruining it. We are so gutted someone can spoil a lovely new building."

If anyone has any information they should contact the police on 101.

Fire Station day

THE Safer Vale Partnership will be holding an open day at Barry Fire Station, Port Road West on Saturday, July 26 between 11am and 3pm.

There will be a packed day of activities, including face painting, an inflatable bouncy castle, and an owl display. Magician Robin Fox will entertain, as well as dance troupe Desert Divas. There will also be live demonstrations by the South Wales Fire and Rescue Service including an aerial water tower rescue, a road traffic collision, and a cliff rescue. Also meet the rescue dogs!

Free car parking is at Barry Boys Comprehensive.

For more information contact Stacey Evans on 01446 450200 or by emailing safervale@valeof glamorgan.gov.uk.

FREE EXCITING FAMILY EVENTS AT BARRY ISLAND

19 & 20 July
The Isle of Fire

Barry Island will once again transform into a fiery landscape. Explore Fire breathing flowers and scorching sculptures. **From 9pm each night.**

26 & 27 July
Street Music Weekender

All That Jazz, The Bucket Band, The Rock Choir, Wonderbrass and Samba Galez. **From 12noon each day.**

2 & 3 August
Street Theatre Weekender

Shows start at 12noon each day with performances throughout the afternoon.

Sunday 10 August
World War I Commemoration Day

Barry Island Gardens will be home to a British WW1 soldier's encampment. **From 11am to 5pm**

16 & 17 August
Sport, Art and Play Weekender

Beach sports, climbing wall, Play Village and graffiti workshops. **11am to 4pm each day.**

23 & 24 August
Cinema by the Sea Weekender

SAT - THE GOONIES
SUN - MAMMA MIA
From 8:30pm each night

30 & 31 August
Barry Wartime Weekend

Experience WW1 and WW2 living history encampments plus

SAT - Red Arrows Display
SUN - BBMF Dakota fly past

Event takes place at Barry Island Railway Station and Hood Rd

Bring a picnic, blanket or low backed chair. Deckchairs available to hire

Events take place on the prom or gardens and may change at short notice.

For more information please call 01446 704737 or go to www.visitthevale.com @visitthevale

'Lights out' in Barry and throughout the nation

TO mark the centenary of the Great War, the Royal British Legion Barry Branch will be holding a 'Lights Out' service at the Barry War Memorial from 9.30pm on Monday, August 4.

The service, which will last approximately 30 minutes, will also take place at cathedrals and battlefields across the world, and even the Blackpool Illuminations will be turned off to mark this historic event.

Westminster Abbey will be leading the nation with a First World War vigil liturgy which will be broadcast live on the BBC.

The lights going out service, was inspired by a haunting remark by the (then) Foreign Secretary, Sir Edward Grey, who had just returned from telling parliament that war with Germany was inevitable.

As he looked out of his office at Whitehall he saw the gas lamps being turned off in the street below, as an air raid precaution. He commented to a friend that: "The lamps are going out all over Europe, and we shall not see them lit again in our lifetime."

This was true for the hundreds of men and boys from the Vale who gave up their lives during the Great War and whose names are remembered on the Roll of Honour within the Barry Memorial Hall.

Bob Wheatley of the Barry Branch of the Royal British Legion said: "Our members believe that it is important for Barry to be part of this historic event, and not simply to watch it on the evening news.

"The service will be taken by Padre Ben Andrews, of Holton Road Church and we would like to thank him and the Barry at War group for their help in organising this service.

"A limited edition centenary candle is available from M & S stores for £4, with all profits going to the Royal British Legion.

"We hope to light one million candles across the UK to remember each and every one of those Service men and women who gave their lives in the war to end all wars."

The 'lights going out' service will start at 9.30pm and end at 10pm, when our candles will be extinguished to mark 100 years to the minute that Britain effectively entered the Great War by issuing an ultimatum to Germany that if they failed to respect the neutrality of Belgium they would be at war.

The service will include contemporary accounts of soldiers experiences of the Great War and Poetry of the time. It is hoped that as many people as possible will attend and bring a candle.

'Labour overpaid for airport'

claims Welsh Tory leader Davies

REGIONAL AM Andrew RT Davies, has responded to Labour claims that Cardiff Airport is vital to the Vale economy.

He insisted that the Welsh Labour Government had over-paid, that 'Soviet-style' government takeovers were far from ideal, and that the airport needed to work on attracting routes which would bring in new visitors to Wales – not just pack people off on their holidays.

The leader of the Welsh Conservatives said: "I want to see a successful Cardiff Airport and it is clear that there are a great number of local jobs dependent on its success.

"That said, we have been clear all along that we do not believe that a Soviet-style government takeover is ideal.

"Neither do we believe that the Welsh Government paid a fair price for the airport. Particularly when you pitch Labour's £50 million investment against the pound (£1) paid by the Scottish Government for Prestwick International Airport.

"There has been some good news recently, not least in the return of Ryanair after an eight year hiatus.

"But let's be clear, Cardiff Airport needs more than a once weekly flight to the Costa Del Sol to return to its former glories. We need to be flying visitors in to Wales in large numbers, not just packing them off on their holidays," he added.

Soroptimists' stand against abuse

Linking arms to raise awareness of the 'Make a Stand' initiative and the campaign against domestic abuse.

THIS year marks the 80th anniversary of the formation of Soroptimist International Great Britain and Ireland (affectionately known as SIGBI).

Although 80 years has passed since SIGBI was formed, today's members are still passionate about the same goal: to achieve equal rights through the education, empowerment and enabling of women.

Also, through Programme Action and Fundraising Events, we help others locally, nationally and internationally

This is certainly true of the Barry and District Club. The club, which was founded over 40 years ago with 15 members, now has 40 members from Barry, Penarth, Dinas Powys, Sully and even Pontyclun.

A spokeswoman said: "Over the past year, local Soroptimists have been involved in reading partnerships with High Street Primary School, delivering interview technique sessions for sixth gormers in Bryn Hafren, the 'Families and School Together' projects, sponsorship of a student in India and supporting the orphanage Pooncholai in Tamil Nadu, as well as fundraising for the Eczema Society, Vale Plus, Ty Hapus and the Foodbank.

"One of the current initiatives is the 'Make a Stand' against abuse.

"In the week when the gender based Violence Bill goes before the Assembly, the Welsh Government has called for a year of campaigning against domestic abuse and violence against women.

"Over the years, members have maintained close links with Atal Y Fro, the local refuge for women escaping domestic abuse, donating wash bags and more recently helping to furnish the new refuge.

"In the past year, the club has also joined with SI Stafford to support the petition 'Violence against women – stop it now.'

"To raise awareness of the 'Make a Stand' initiative, club members are pictured linking arms against abuse."

To find out more about us, visit www.sigbi.org/barry-and-district.

CD

BINGO AFTERNOON

THE management committee at Rhoose Community Hall is holding a bingo afternoon on Saturday, July 26 at the hall in Stewart Road.

Doors open at 1.45pm for a 2.30pm start. There will be a large raffle, and light refreshments will be available at the halftime break.

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Prince's fund highlights rural issues
'WE NEED TO GROW MORE AS THE COUNTRY'S POPULATION RISES'

RURAL and "opportunity" are words not often associated together, but with 5.5 million people employed in the rural economy, and domestic food and drink contributing £22 billion to the UK economy, The Prince's Countryside Fund says it's time to rethink how we view the value of the countryside.

Recent research conducted by The Prince's Countryside Fund, ahead of last week's National Countryside Week reveals that a significant number of people undervalue the contribution and value of the British countryside.

In a separate recent YouGov poll, nearly three in ten (28 per cent) of people surveyed believed the contribution of Britain's rural economy to be less than it is: 19 per cent of the overall UK economy.

The Prince's Countryside Fund manager, Helen Aldis, explained: "Rural Affairs are often put to one side until there's a crisis, like dramatic floods earlier this spring. But once the waters recede, and the crisis is no longer visible, we neglect to examine issues the countryside faces and these issues not only affect those who live in the countryside, they have an impact on everyone who lives in Britain."

Britain is more reliant on food imports than at any stage over the last 40 years. Official statistics on Britain's self-sufficiency – the measure of how much food eaten in Britain is grown here – is just 58.9 per cent.

It comes as an increasing number of sheep and dairy farmers have abandoned the industry in recent years, with 60,000 new entrants needed to enter farming in the next decade to keep the industry at a similar level to what it is today.

With 24 per cent of the population living in rural Britain, National Countryside Week gives us an opportunity to remind people of the value of the countryside and reflect on how we can protect it and support those who live and work in it.

"Putting rural affairs on the agenda is key to keeping the countryside in business. Self-sufficiency is just one issue the rural economy is facing, but our declining food production for a growing population underscores the fact that we're not realising the full potential of our countryside and exploring the best use of our greatest natural asset.

"We are all rural consumers: we eat food from UK farms, we enjoy leisure time in the countryside, we value its biodiversity, landscape and tranquillity. The issues The Prince's Countryside Fund tackles, low farming incomes, decline in rural communities, access for training for young people, and rural isolation – these all have an impact on everyone who lives in the UK."

The Prince's Countryside Fund, which has given over £3.8 million in grants in the four years since its inception, was set up by the Prince of Wales to provide support to the multitude of remarkable organisations and individuals working tirelessly to keep farmers farming and our rural communities alive.

During National Countryside Week we aim to celebrate the individuals who care for the countryside and through the over 90 projects across the country we have supported so far highlight the diverse range of ways they are contributing.

PLAY WITH MOBY!

The GEM is in partnership with the Dog's Trust to find caring homes for animals in their charge at Bridgend Rehoming Centre (telephone: 01656 725219)

MOBY is a 10-week-old Jack Russell who is a bright, happy little lad, although sometimes just a little reserved.

He needs his confidence building in a good home; he is a busy puppy, and will need lots of exercise, and all-important socialising while he is growing and learning his manners.

He would suit someone who has brought up terrier type dogs before, and he can live with children over the age of six.

All puppies rehomed from Dogs Trust must be brought along to a 10-week-course of training classes, which is a brilliant way to bond and get off to a good start (the price is included in the adoption fee).

If you would like to know more about Moby, call 01656 725219, or pop into Dogs Trust Bridgend. We are open 12pm-4pm, Tuesday to Sunday, and until 7.30pm on Wednesdays. We always have lots of lovely dogs here looking for homes, so if Moby's not the one for you, please do come and see who else is here!

Linda Feagan,
Supporter Relations Officer, Bridgend

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Out and About with The GEM

Table top sale

AGE CONNECT Cardiff and Vale is holding a table top sale at the Senior Health Shop, Holton Road, Barry, on Saturday, July 26 (10am-12 midday).

There will be a sale of new/nearly new good quality clothes, cake stall and a raffle.

Admission is free. All proceeds will be used for the benefit of the Senior Health Shop.

Contact 01446 732385 for further information. Donations of good quality clothes welcome.

Vintage cars and bikes

A CLASSIC vintage car and bike meet takes place on Saturday, July 26, from 10am at the Fawlty Tower Cafe, Llandow Trading Estate.

Telephone 01446 793631 for more details.

Family service in Penarth

ALL Saints Church in Victoria Square, All Saints Church in Victoria Square, Penarth, is holding a family service on Sunday, July 27 at 10am.

There will be worship items suitable for all ages focused on the theme of 'journeys' – very topical for the summer holiday period! Creche facilities are available and refreshments will be served afterwards. All are welcome – for more information visit *allsaintspenarth.org.uk*.

Super Spirals

A demonstration of Super Spirals Calligraphy is at Cowbridge Library on Tuesday, July 29, from 2.30pm to 3.30pm.

For more information and to book a place, contact the library on 01446 773941. For chidren aged nine years and over.

WHAT'S ON AND WHERE?

Advice on 'energy' costs

DO you want help with your energy bills? Want free and impartial advice on cutting your energy bills, and to find out if you are eligible for free energy home improvements through the Welsh Government Nest programme?

Age Connect Cardiff and Vale is holding a surgery at the Senior Health Shop, Holton Road, Barry on Tuesday, July 29, 10am to 12 midday where you can have a chat to one of Nest's advisors.

Contact 01446 732385 for further information.

Can't make the session? Contact Freephone 0808/808/2244 and speak to a Nest advisor.

Tax advice for older people

A 'TAXHELP for Older People (TOP)' surgery will be held at Roz Couzens' Chiropody Surgery, Unit 4, Commercial House, Commercial Street, Llantwit Major CF61 1RB on Monday, August 4 from 10am until midday.

No appointment is necessary. To access the TOP's helpline, telephone 0845 6013321 or 01308 488066.

Home visits can also be arranged via this helpline for people unable to attend the surgery.

Penarth summer coffee morning

PENARTH Yacht club will be the venue for the Lifeboat summer coffee morning which will be held on Wednesday, August 6, from 10.30am to 12 noon, delicious cakes, savouries for sale, souvenirs from shop.

Ty Hafan lottery winners

THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number D836.

- **£2,000:** 897752.
- **The rollover, which now stands at £500, was not won this week.**
- **£10:** 754609, 410334, 492311, 390789, 530531, 659562, 568645, 109252, 238380, 828716, 384795, 621122, 285889, 745072, 351589, 416863, 613374, 745281, 740824, 471419.
- **£5:** 219683, 474315, 678742, 911433, 188585, 532129, 496325, 538396, 736096, 858497, 294139, 684790, 716405, 313529, 126997, 649046, 367863, 567843, 848957, 372570, 888230, 185396, 647083, 108560, 658916, 354892, 532075, 250395, 363379, 846883, 859180, 760344, 544678, 870031, 256474, 535374, 311591, 827655, 405827, 142589, 339978, 477127, 760898, 492237, 437545, 273605, 279827, 574828, 730668, 885131, 482521, 402844, 321561, 175770, 623269, 116924, 807367, 000010, 1218, 827.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information please telephone 029 2053 2300.

Classic motor show event

BRECON Motor Club, in conjunction with The GEM's sister paper, the Brecon & Radnor Express, has announced that at least 80 historic and classic vehicles will be showcased at the Brecon Beacons National Park Visitor Centre, Libanus on Sunday, August 3.

Among the cars booked to attend are a 1954 Ford Popular, a 1963 Triumph TR4 and a 1935 Austin 7 Tourer.

Two wheelers include a 1936 Royal Enfield, a 1968 Triumph Bonneville T120 and a Series 2 Lambretta Li150.

Vehicles expected include at least one from each decade of the 20th century – from the 1930s to the 1990s – something for everyone.

There is no charge for visitors to the show, apart from a small charge for parking.

The event will raise money for 'The Prince's Countryside Fund,' donations to the fund will be welcome.

The show opens for visitors at 10.30 am and will close at 4pm.

Contact Brecon Beacons National Park Visitor Centre on 01874 623366 or vcuser@beacons-npa.gov.uk.

Strawberry tea for cancer charity

ON July 30 at 10.30am, The Place for Homes will host a strawberry tea party at the store in Llandow, for Breast Cancer Care.

It selected Breast Cancer Care as its chosen charity and later in the year, three staff members will also be running the Cardiff half marathon to support the cause.

Rhian Francis, managing director of The Place for Homes explained: "Breast Cancer is a cause very close to my heart, as my mum was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2009, and following surgery and treatment is now well on the road to recovery.

"The number of people affected by breast cancer is enormous and Breast Cancer Care is there to answer questions and provide support not only during the treatment but afterwards.

"I look forward to meeting everyone on Wednesday, July 30, at 10.30am to enjoy excellent home baked cakes and, most importantly, to raise funds for this excellent cause."

If you'd like to hold your own strawberry tea, you can order a free fundraising kit at www.breastcancercare.org.uk/strawberry or call 0870 164 9422.

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Vale AM attends Barry's 'Praise in Park Fun Day'

ABOVE: Jane Hutt AM with the face-painting team at the church fun day.

WITH the sun shining after the storms of the night before, the 'Praise in the Park Fun Day' organised by churches in the Vale, with visitors from Texas, drew the crowds for face painting, music, refreshments and games for families to enjoy all in the beautiful setting of Victoria Park in Barry.

Vale AM Jane Hutt, joined the face painting team in the park where a queue was forming.

Volunteers from the Vale Foodbank were also enjoying the fun day as they prepare for their free holiday breakfasts, offered on Mondays and Fridays at the Coastlands Family Church in the Colcot.

Jane Hutt said: "I am always thrilled to come to events like these which really show the depth of community spirit in places in the Vale like Barry. It was a great day out for families of all ages and I hope everyone enjoyed it as much as the face painting team!"

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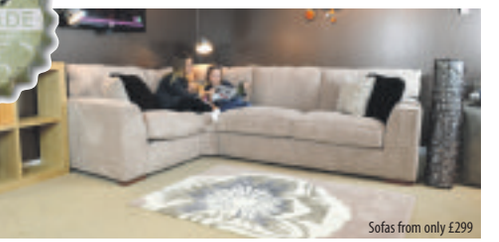

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Two Vale locations on Wales' 'Special Places' list

DYFFRYN House and Gardens has been voted one of Wales' top 10 'Special Places' in a major campaign by National Trust Wales to get the country talking about what makes the places in Wales so special – now the race is on to get it crowned as the top spot.

For the past six weeks the conservation charity's Special Places campaign has sparked a national conversation that has seen people talking about, and voting for, their own 'special place' in Wales – now the public are being asked to vote in person at the property by Thursday, July 31, or online by Sunday, August 3, to help make it champion as it battles against places such as Cyfarthfa Castle, Gower and Hay-on-Wye.

The top ten to be announced at the Royal Welsh Show are:

1) Penarth Pier;
2) Hay-On-Wye;
3) Mwnt;
4) Brecon Beacons;
5) Tenby;
6) Dyffryn House and Gardens;
7) Snowdonia National Park;
8) Cyfarthfa Castle
9) Gower;
10) The Lonely Tree.

Dyffryn House and Gardens was shortlisted by judges for its beautiful grounds and unique character.

Geraldine Donovan, general manager at Dyffryn Gardens, said: "We are very excited about making the shortlist, Dyffryn Gardens has a hugely important role in the community and it's incredible that so many people have nominated us.

"We want as many people as possible to enjoy our gardens, particularly because so much restoration work has been completed in the past couple of years. This campaign will hopefully mean Dyffryn becomes a special place for lots more people."

To vote for their winner, people in the Vale are being urged to vote via Twitter using #lleoeddarbennig / #specialplaces @NTWales or on Facebook at [link to go live on July 23 at http://on.fb.me/1nJMU6f

The first domestic violence protection orders are granted

POLICE in Bridgend have successfully taken out their first new banning orders to protect the victims of domestic abuse.

Last week, officers from Bridgend were granted new powers to ban a suspect from returning to their own home if a victim and children are believed to be under threat.

Previously, it was the victim and children who had to leave the family home.

The Domestic Violence Protection Order (DVPO) was issued on July 10 by magistrates in Bridgend after an application by Bridgend officers. A second application for DVPO was then issued by Bridgend magistrates on July 11.

A police spokeswoman said: "The new process builds on existing police measures, providing immediate emergency protection for a victim, giving protected space for them to explore the options available to them and make informed decisions regarding their safety.

"The notice can be authorised by an officer or Superintendent rank or above and the case will be presented before a magistrate within 48 hours of it being served.

"If magistrates decide to authorise a DVPO, the order can last between 14 and 28 days. In conjunction with the issuing of a DVPO, the police will also refer the victim to Victim Support. Victim Support will then contact the victim to conduct a needs assessment to see what help and support they require. Where specific needs are identified, they will put them in touch with an independent domestic violence adviser."

Chief Inspector Jason James explained: "Sometimes domestic violence is reported to us but there is insufficient evidence to bring a charge, at least this gives the victims breathing space of up to 28 days.

"Sadly, in the past it was the victim and their children who had to move to keep them safe. Thankfully that may not be the case now.

"In the past, the suspect has been released without any restrictions, now domestic violence protection notices can be authorised by a Superintendent before a suspect leaves custody. This can result in banning the suspect from the victim's address, or the area around it."

The first DVPO was granted on July 10 against a 46-year-old male. The order runs for 28 days and is a result of an alleged domestic violence incident.

Inspector Justin Evans added: "DVPOs are an emergency measure to protect victims from immediate violence and our officers are being encouraged to use the new orders and notices as and when appropriate. This change is a powerful new step to help police protect victims."

The new Domestic Violence Protection Orders comes after the introduction of Clare's Law which is a scheme that allows police to disclose historic information about violence. The DVPO is intended to protect families from becoming new victims of attack.

'TAKE MEASURES TO PROTECT YOUR OUTDOOR EQUIPMENT'

SOUTH Wales Police are advising people to take measures to protect their gardening equipment, tools, bikes and barbecues.

Deborah Elward, crime reduction advisor for Bridgend and the Vale, explained: "Thieves will generally take the easiest option when considering breaking into a shed, outbuilding or home and security measures, such as motion-activated lighting can deter any would be thief.

"However, there are other ways to protect your home and garden.

"Gravel paths and drives are a good way of cheaply and unobtrusively discouraging a thief from entering your garden.

"Gravel makes a loud noise when stepped on which carries well at night and may wake the home owners, neighbours or a dog.

"Don't leave items in your garden that could make the life of a thief any easier. For example, a ladder left out in your garden could be used to get into the upper floor of your home or onto the top of your shed.

"Likewise, other tools and gardening equipment left outside could be used to break into your home. Just taking a few minutes to lock these items away will greatly increase your security."

Vintage line-up at Margam Park

THE Ferguson Club were invited by the Glamorgan Iron Horse Society to attend the two-day vintage event held at Margam Park on July 12-13.

The club supplied a number of 60 and 70 year old tractors and, in conjunction with the Iron Horse Society, put on a display of 25 tractors at the Ferguson Club Stand.

Club members were on hand to answer questions from the public.

The setting of the vintage fair was ideal, with Margam Castle being the backdrop to the stands and the good weather helped to make the event a success. The Ferguson Club hope they will be invited to attend the fair again.

The Ferguson Club is an international club with membership drawn from across the world, and its purpose is to remember the name of Harry Ferguson, who designed the 'little grey' Ferguson in 1946, forerunner of all hydraulic-operated tractor implements.

BG

Young orchestras raise the roof at Grand Pavilion!

The Four Counties Youth Orchestra waiting backstage.

Report and photographs by Keith E Morgan.

Guests included Karen Hnyda, flute and woodwind tutor to the Four Counties Youth Orchestra; Tim Wright, MD of the Guernsey Youth Orchestra; Mervyn Grand, director of the Guernsey Music Centre; Derek Holvey, MD of the Four Counties Youth Orchestra, together with representatives of the Four County Borough Councils.

A CAPACITY audience were in for a treat when they attended a recent joint concert given by the Four Counties Youth Orchestra and the visiting Guernsey Youth Orchestra.

This is the Four Counties Youth Orchestra's 65th year and it draws on young musical talent from the counties of Bridgend, Caerphilly, Merthyr and Rhondda Cynon Taff. It was previously called The Mid Glamorgan Youth Orchestra.

However, even though artists from Bridgend are represented, Bridgend County Borough Council has now withdrawn all its funding and support for the Four Counties Youth Orchestra.

Under the respective batons of Derek Holvey MBE, and Tim Wright (a past member of The Mid Glamorgan Youth Orchestra), the Four Counties Youth Orchestra and the Guernsey Youth Orchestra presented a contrasting concert programme, including the William Tell Overture, Vltava, Celtic Dances, James Bond themes, *Pirates of the Caribbean* and *Raiders of the Lost Ark*.

To conclude the evening's enjoyment and, as a magnificent finale, the two orchestras of 150 young musicians played out the concert with Henry Wood's Fantasia on British Sea Songs.

How fortunate we are to have such gifted young musicians in our midst and even more fortunate are we to be able to witness and listen to them playing. The concert was a great success and this was reflected in the standing ovation the musicians received at the end from a very appreciative audience.

Councils join forces in bid to save cash

by PHILIP IRWIN

THE Vale Council, BCBC and Cardiff Council intend to cut costs by running a joint regulatory service covering trading standards, environmental health and licensing.

A business case has been prepared by consultants WS Atkins, with a plan on how the new service will be structured, and a period of consultation with staff, trade unions and councillors is now underway.

Any final decision will be made by the cabinet and the full council of each of the three local authorities.

Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) chief executive Darren Mepham, who has taken on the role of project sponsor, said: "In the times of austerity, it's clear that all local authorities need to adapt to change to provide good quality services at a lower cost.

"It is an exciting opportunity to work with other councils to deliver these services, given the financial pressures that we all face.

"This is one of a number of collaborative projects which will be taken forward as local authorities adapt to change in the current challenging economic and social climate".

The business case that has been put before the councils says that savings of £1.38 million could be made, spread across the three councils.

At present, they spend a total of £9.82 million. Cardiff spends the most (£5.53 million) while Bridgend spends £2.25 million. The Vale Council spends £2.03 million.

However, the report also says that a new IT system will be needed.

The Vale has been singled out as the likely base for the operation. Although Bridgend could offer the lowest running costs, the expense incurred by asking staff to relocate appears to be lowest in the Vale.

There will, says the report, still be satellite offices in each of the three councils so that the public can meet officers face to face.

If there is agreement about the new scheme, a chief officer will be appointed in September 2014, and staff will start transferring in April 2015.

Choir's tribute to popular president

Left to right: Phillip Walters, Glan Davies and Haydn Wheeler.

OBITUARY

PORTHCAWL Male Choir choristers were shocked and saddened to learn of the sudden untimely passing of their popular president and former chairman, Glan Davies.

A native of west Wales, he came from a farming family but, unlike his brother who ultimately ran the family farm, Glan chose teaching as his lifetime career.

His chosen field was the education of profoundly deaf children. In the early days, such children were educated outside mainstream education, and Glan did much within the scope of his influence to bring such children into the educational system.

His early career was centred in the north of England, where he met and married a girl from Wigan, Barbara, who was his lifelong partner until she sadly passed away 11 years ago.

Glan and Barbara moved back to Wales in the early 1960s when specialist deaf education units in schools were being pioneered by the former Glamorgan education authority. They settled initially in Briton Ferry, before moving to Porthcawl in 1964.

On the reorganisation of local government in 1974, Glan was appointed as the Mid Glamorgan Education Authority's county advisor for the hearing impaired.

He always took an active role in the town's activities. He and Barbara joined the Arlington Place Presbyterian Church, where he eventually became an elder. He was the treasurer of the town's civic fund, and became a board member of the Glamorgan Holiday homes.

He was also a past chairman of Probus and a member of the Choral Society. After retirement he continued working for a time as a part time inspector of special needs schools.

His role as a founder member of Porthcawl Male choir was recognised in 2005 when the choir was celebrating its 25th birthday. He and four other founder members were granted life membership.

Glan had served as chairman until the mid 1990s, after which he was appointed president, a post he held until his untimely and sudden death last Saturday (July 19).

He is survived by his two daughters Heather and Joy and two granddaughters.

The picture above shows his last official act as president of Porthcawl Choir, presenting 25 year service awards to two deserving choristers.

Rest in peace, Glan, the choir will not forget you nor will the people of Porthcawl. God Bless.

Robert Williams

New man at helm of Maesteg Rotary

THE new president of Maesteg Rotary Club was installed on Monday, July 21 at The Old House Llangynwyd. The picture shows new president Viv Gage receiving his chain of office from outgoing president Tal Harries. Viv's priority this year will be recruitment as the club, to keep going, really needs an influx of new members.

AM's congrats for Cowbridge thesps

VALE AM Jane Hutt visited Cowbridge's Market Theagtre to see the Cowbridge Amateur Dramatic Society's production of the *39 Steps*.

She is pictured with Cowbridge Mayor (and cast member) Coun Peter Knapp, and director Peter Sain ley Berry (right).

Coun Knapp said: "The run was a great success, selling out on four of the five nights (indeed, we installed extra seating on Saturday!) and was very well received by all our audiences."

Friendship festival is back in Barry

BARRY arts group, Art4U is set to hold its fifth annual Friendship Tree Festival on Sunday, July 27, 2pm – 8pm.

The event will feature many local musicians and dancers, together with a few guest surprises.

Artists performing include Back to November, Hank Hillman, The Danielle Nicholls Band, Desert Divas Dance Group, Andrew Skelton Music, Christopher Young, and others.

There will also be a free drum workshop at noon in front of the tree. The theme of the festival is 'Friendship', and the aim is to create a gentle event, with a friendly atmosphere.

Members of the public are welcome to enjoy this free day of music, dance and art. Bring a picnic and a blanket. Free entry, donations warmly received.

Art4U is a voluntary arts group who aim to bring collaborative art to the public of Barry and bring people outdoors to celebrate nature. For more information on Art4U and the Friendship Tree Festival, visit www.art4uwales.org.uk

Supported by Barry Town Council, in association with the Barry Arts Festival.

Macmillan fundraiser

KAREN JONES, deputy playgroup leader at KiddieWinkles Childcare, is busy organising a fundraising coffee morning in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support on September 26.

Karen has recently lost her father to cancer and felt this would be a "marvellous opportunity" to involve the staff, children and parents at KiddieWinkles in raising awareness and money for the charity. For further information, email kiddiewinkles@talktalk.net, or call 07855 369601.

ABOVE: The man the police would like to interview.

POLICE APPEAL AFTER FORECOURT PETROL THEFT

A CCTV image of a man wanted in connection with a theft of fuel has been released by police in Barry,

Police want to speak to the man in connection with theft of fuel from Waycock Cross Filling Station in Barry on June 19 at around 3pm.

A police spokeswoman said: "The silver Mercedes he was driving was fitted with fake number plates when he filled up £70 worth of fuel and drove off without paying".

Anyone with information should contact South Wales Police on 101. Alternatively Crimestoppers can be called anonymously on 0800 555 111 or via their website www.crimestoppes-uk.org/give-information

WI coffee morning

BARRY WI are holding a coffee morning for their charity, Air Ambulance Wales on Tuesday, August 5, 10am – 12 noon at Highlight Community Centre, Highlight Park, Barry.

Admission is £3 (children no charge). There will be a tombola, craft stall, raffle and cake sale. All are welcome.

AM shows his support for Bobath

Andrew RT Davies pictured at Bobath.

SOUTH Wales Central AM, Andrew RT Davies, has met staff at the children's charity Bobath to witness the work they do with children who have cerebral palsy.

During the visit he joined a number of therapy sessions, discussed difficulties with long-term funding, as well as gaps that exist in the provision of support for adults with cerebral palsy in Wales.

Bobath Children's Therapy Centre, in Whitchurch, provides specialist physiotherapy, occupational therapy and speech and language therapy to children all over Wales who have cerebral palsy. Mr Davies learnt that every year Bobath therapists treat many young people from the Vale, Cardiff and the Valleys.

Mr Davies said: "Bobath undertake amazing work with young people with cerebral palsy in Wales, in spite of the challenges in securing enough long-term funding to meet demand.

"During the sessions I attended, the level of professionalism among the therapists was clear – as was the impact that the therapy has on the youngsters who are fortunate enough to secure a place at the centre.

"One of the key difficulties facing Bobath is the fact that the funding they receive from Service Level Agreements (SLAs) only covers a third of their operational running costs each year. SLAs are in place with six of the seven health boards in Wales, but the charity faces real challenges meeting demand in Wales.

"Bobath therapists are able to offer treatment to around 500 of the estimated 1,800 children in Wales with cerebral palsy, but as a children's charity there is no resource to offer sessions to the many adults in Wales who could benefit.

"I would like to see the Welsh Government giving greater consideration to increasing the provision of therapy for adults with cerebral palsy.

"During one of the sessions I attended I watched a young girl with cerebral palsy working on improving her strength and mobility and it was clear within a short space fo time the difference that the Bobath therapists can make to the patients they treat.

"I also had the chance to take her on in a game of noughts and crosses – losing twice in a row!"

TV MATT TO OPEN MARIE CURIE EVENT

IT'S almost that time of year again when Marie Curie Hospice opens its doors for the annual garden party and fete.

Taking place on Saturday, August 2 (12.30pm to 4pm) in the gardens at the Hospice in Bridgeman Road and Windsor Park overlooking the beautiful seafront, this is a fun filled day for the whole family.

There will be entertainment from the 'Mr P New Orleans' parade band, as well as the usual face painting, children's games, a tasty barbecue and hog roast, a raffle with the chance to win some great prizes, a special appearance by Peppa Pig and of course the usual stalls where you can pick up a bargain.

This year, TV presenter Matt Johnson will be officially opening the event at 12.30pm.

Caerphilly-born Matt has presented across ITV's This Morning, Good Morning Britain, The National Lottery, Radio 5 Live's Fighting Talk, as well as fronting exclusive content for VUE Cinemas.

Entry into the garden party is £1 for adults who will then be entered into a lucky programme with the chance of winning a fantastic mystery prize.

Children are free to enter. So why not come along with the whole family for a fun day out?

Please call the fundraising office at the Hospice on 02920 426068 for more details - we look forward to seeing you on the day!

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Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act, 1990
Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Wales) Order 2012

Development that may affect a Conservation Area/ Datblygu a allai effeithio ar Ardal Gadwraeth

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2014/00394/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Proposed demolition of existing single and two storey rear annexes and rebuilding of 2 storey extension to rear of property, plus carport and bin store (Amended Proposal)
Location:/Lleoliad: 42, Clive Place, Penarth
Conservation Area:/
Ardal Gadwraeth Penarth

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2014/00686/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Material alterations to the buildings facade
Location:/Lleoliad: The Kiosk, Stanwell Road, Penarth
Conservation Area:/
Ardal Gadwraeth Penarth

Conservation Area Consent / Caniatâd Ardal Gadwraeth

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2014/00395/CAC
Proposal:/Cynnig: Proposed demolition of existing single and two storey rear annexes in relation to rebuilding of 2 storey extension to rear of property, plus carport and bin store. Also demolition and rebuilding of front and part of side elevation
Location:/Lleoliad: 42, Clive Place, Penarth
Conservation Area:/
Ardal Gadwraeth Penarth

Listed Building Consent/Caniatâd Adeilad Rhestredig

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2014/00818/LBC
Proposal:/Cynnig: Corridor window to library to be replaced like for like. Stone surround and metal framed glazing to be replaced whilst existing latches to be retained.
Location:/Lleoliad: United World College of the Atlantic Ltd, St. Donats Castle, St. Donats
Listed Building:/
Adeilad Rhestredig Grade I

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2014/00846/LBC
Proposal:/Cynnig: Replacement of roller shutters - 9 no. shutters in front of building (south elevation), 9 no. shutters in rear of building (north elevation) and 2 no. shutters in sides of building (east and west elevations)
Location:/Lleoliad: Western Shelter, Paget Road, Barry
Listed Building:/
Adeilad Rhestredig Grade II

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2014/00860/LBC
Proposal:/Cynnig: Conversion and extension of former mortuary building to residential bungalow.
Location:/Lleoliad: Former Mortuary building, Hayes Point, Hayes Road, Sully
Listed Building:/
Adeilad Rhestredig Grade II*

Affecting setting of a Listed Building/ Cais (au) sy'n effeithio ar leoliad Adeilad Rhestredig

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2014/00685/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Demolition of shed and replacement with oak framed garage/workshop with attached gym.
Location:/Lleoliad: Llandough Castle, Llandough, Cowbridge
Listed Building:/
Adeilad Rhestredig Affecting Llandough Castle, Grade II*

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2014/00816/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Corridor window to library to be replaced like for like. Stone surround and metal framed glazing to be replaced whilst existing latches to be retained.
Location:/Lleoliad: United World College of the Atlantic Ltd, St. Donats Castle, St. Donats
Listed Building:/
Adeilad Rhestredig Affecting St. Donats Castle, Grade I

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2014/00837/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Construction of two, three bedroom detached dwellings with parking, on the site of the existing dwelling which is to be demolished
Location:/Lleoliad: 74, Murch Road, Dinas Powys
Listed Building:/
Adeilad Rhestredig Affecting 1-3 Little Orchard, Grade II

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2014/00859/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Conversion and extension of former mortuary building to residential bungalow.
Location:/Lleoliad: Former Mortuary building, Hayes Point, Hayes Road, Sully
Listed Building:/
Adeilad Rhestredig Affecting Former mortuary Grade II*

Application(s) of General Interest/ Ceisiadau o Ddiddordeb Cyffredinol

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2014/00569/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Extension to existing retail store to form new garden centre with ancillary cafe and play area (A1 use) in addition to new restaurant (A3 use) with outdoor seating area and internal reconfiguration and reduction in floorspace of existing store to incorporate D1/D2 uses with associated adjustment/reduction to car parking, additional servicing arrangements, new covered walkway, relocated ATM and trolley storage and ancillary works.
Location:/Lleoliad: Tesco Stores Ltd, Culverhouse Cross, Cardiff

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2014/00701/OUT
Proposal:/Cynnig: The erection of three detached dwellings
Location:/Lleoliad: Kendal House, Penllyn, Cowbridge

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2014/00812/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Erection of a single wind turbine, with a maximum blade tip height of 77m, along with accompanying access track, crane hardstanding, substation and temporary construction compound.
Location:/Lleoliad: The Grange, St. Brides Super Ely

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2014/00834/RES
Proposal:/Cynnig: Re-plan of 78 No. plots (1-15, 45-60 and 65-111) and provision of an additional plot (112) as previously permitted under applications 2009/00946/OUT and 2012/00732/EAR.
Location:/Lleoliad: West Pond, Land at Barry Waterfront, Barry

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2014/00835/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Removal of existing demountable classroom units and creation of new primary school building with associated playground, lighting, sprinkler tank and landscaping
Location:/Lleoliad: Ysgol Dewi Sant, Ham Lane East, Llantwit Major

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2014/00853/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Proposed amenity block to provide welfare facilities at existing site
Location:/Lleoliad: Building W208, Dow Corning Limited, Cardiff Road, Barry

May affect a Public Right of Way / Gall effeithio ar Hawl Tramwy Cyhoeddus

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2014/00812/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Erection of a single wind turbine, with a maximum blade tip height of 77m, along with accompanying access track, crane hardstanding, substation and temporary construction compound.
Location:/Lleoliad: The Grange, St. Brides Super Ely

Details may be inspected for 21 days at the address given below, or via **http://vogonline.planning-register.co.uk/**

Gall manylion eu harchwilio am 21 diwrnod yn y cyfeiriad a roddir isod, neu drwy **http://vogonline.planning-register.co.uk/**

Dated / Dyddiedig: 24 July, 2014

M. Goldsworthy
Operational Manager Development & Building Control,
Vale of Glamorgan Council, Dock Office, Barry. CF63 4RT

Local schools get healthy!

Pupils from Peterston Super Ely Primary School with Jennifer Hill, director of Skills and Learning at the Vale Council

Pupils from Llanilltud Fawr Primary School with Dr Sharon Hopkins, director of Public Health for Cardiff and Vale University Health Board

PRIMARY schools from across the Vale held an event at Barry Memorial Hall recently to celebrate their success in the Welsh Network of Healthy Schools Schemes.

Over 50 children gave presentations showcasing the variety of activity that has been going on in the Vale, and more than 25 partner organisations had stands giving information to children and teachers about improving health.

The Welsh Network of Healthy Schools Schemes encourages the development of local healthy school schemes within a national framework. It is funded by the Welsh Government, and is delivered by Public Health Wales, working with local health boards and local authorities.

Dr Sharon Hopkins, director of Public Health for Cardiff and Vale University Health Board, said: "It is wonderful to see the energy and enthusiasm of pupils, and the enjoyment they are getting from taking part in healthy activities".

Jennifer Hill, director of skills and learning at the ValeCouncil, said: "We know that a healthy child is more likely to learn and do well at school, so it really is vital that teachers, parents and families work together with initiatives like the healthy schools scheme, to make good health a priority for everyone."

At the event, schools took part in a health quiz. The quiz was won by pupils from Llanilltud Fawr Primary School in Llantwit Major.

Pupils from St Brides Primary School, performing their dance routine

Summer activities for local children

WITH the summer holidays fast approaching, the Vale Council's sports and play development team have been busy preparing a variety of sports and play activities.

The sports and play family fun day takes place on July 26 from 11am-3pm at King's Square and Central Park, Barry, which coincides with the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow and will allow people to have a taste of Commonwealth sports such as table tennis, rhythmic gymnastics, and netball, as well as a range of arts and crafts activities, and giant outdoor games such as Connect Four and Jenga.

Open access play schemes in Palmerston Community Learning Centre, Barry, and Llanilltud Fawr Primary School will have den building, arts and crafts and water play on offer for children aged four to 11 years, as well as sports development team members at some of the sessions offering sports activities.

In partnership with Dinas Powys Community Council, the play development team will be running a family fun day next to Murchfield Community Centre on August 20, 11am to 3pm, where families will be able to experience a range of play activities together.

The team has also partnered with Barry Town Council to organise two family fun days. The first will take place on August 1, 2pm to 6pm at Maslin Park, Barry Island, while the second event will take place, 3pm to 7pm on August 6 at Alexandra Gardens, Barry, to celebrate National Play Day.

Working in partnership with Communities First, the team has also organised a number of sports sessions as part of the Doorstep Sports and Street Games projects.

With funding support from Sport Wales, multisport activities will take place on Iolo Park, Treharne, on Monday afternoons whilst futsal and multisport activities will take place in the Castleland multi-use games area on Thursday afternoons.

Disability Sport camps will be running throughout the summer for disabled children, where a variety of activities will be delivered in partnership with Post 2 Post Coaching.

The team will also be a part of the Barry Island Weekenders, organised by the council's events team on August 16-17, in addition to activities at the Vale Show and the Disability Strand family fun day on August 15.

To finish off the programme of summer activities, the team is working in partnership with the Park Rangers at both Victoria and Romilly Park on August 19, 10am to 3pm to deliver football fun days.

To find out confirmed dates, times and venues for all of the activities in the programme please visit the Vale Council website at www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk, contact 01446 704793 or e-mail KJDavies@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

CHARITY COFFEE

A CHARITY coffee morning will be held in the All Saints Church lesser hall, Victoria Square, Penarth, on July 26 from 10am until noon. Admission 50p, to include tea/coffee. Plenty of bargains for all – all proceeds to charities.

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BRAVE BETH TAKES HER CANCER BATTLE TO HANOVER CLINIC

Report by CAROLINE SARLL
Photographs by Ffion Margetson

ABOVE: Beth is wrapped in insulating material, ready to suffer the extreme heat hyperthermia treatment.

The monitoring equipment shows that Beth's body temperature has been taken up to 42.5 degrees Celsius.

CANCER and comedy are not usually obvious bedfellows. But last week, as former midwife and cancer sufferer Beth Margetson received treatment in the controversial Hyperthermia Clinic in Hanover, it was her trademark sideways look at life – along with the many friends who were out there supporting her – which was her main buffer against the sometimes gruelling treatment.

"I took cakes into the clinic today and, as I can't speak German, I announced in the full waiting room, in Welsh mode, that I had brought them a bag 'mit' (with) cacen. Half the room looked horrified and the other half were hysterical.

"Carmen, the nurse was crying laughing and told me what I'd just said: that I had brought them a bag of poo (kacke)! A bit of a faux pas, you could say, but I am bonding through laughter".

Beth's stay and daily treatment was punctuated during the three weeks by the arrival of friends and supporters, popping up almost conveyor-belt style.

Fellow midwife Bev Poulton flew out with Beth and her 16-year-old daughter Ffion, to be joined later by Kay Sheridan and Philippa Horton from Balkwills Chemist. Husband Chris, behind Beth all the way, stayed at home to look after Peter, Beth's dad.

I arrived, in reporter mode, on the day that Kay and Philippa left, to be swiftly joined the next day by Linda Johnson, a colleague and friend from Bridgend College, where Beth teaches health and social care.

During the last week, midwife Angela Hopkin and her sister-in-law Sally, completed the chain of supporters.

"I couldn't have done this without you all," says Beth, a little tearful. "You've been such a help to me and to Ffion, who is going through so much. Thank you all so much. I don't know how I can ever repay you".

Beth, of course, has already repaid her wellwishers a hundred times over with her indomitable spirit, tenacity and the ability to see a silver lining every step of the way.

During my three days there, despite the traumas Beth had to endure – having your whole body heated up to over 40 degrees while lying stock still for nearly three hours inevitably takes its toll – she quipped her way through every challenge:

"I've got to have this anal probe to take my temperature while I lie here. I'm covered in tin foil from top to toe. All I need is a sprig of thyme in my mouth as well and I'm like a Bernard Matthews turkey!"

Such levity, of course, belies the seriousness of Beth's situation. Beth, who has battled her metastatic breast cancer since her diagnosis in 2012, has 32 tumours in her liver and cancer throughout her bones.

She has already had her lymph nodes, her ovaries and one breast removed. Her battle to receive a life-extending drug, Afinitor, denied her by the NHS, has already been well documented here.

Tireless fundraising meant that she was eventually able to buy the "£100 a pop" medication. When she was first diagnosed, she was given six months to live. But, like her own mother, who lived for 23 years with her own cancer – astoundingly without any treatment – Beth is determined to defy such prognoses and the system which advocates such terminal diagnoses and hopelessness.

As soon as I arrived, I was met with her usual stemwinder-style oratory, which has galvanised the people in her hometown:

"In Wales, I have been in a system of care which is paternalistic and is driven by funding and statistics. I have come here to a place that is driven by love and hope.

"It's not about when and how we'll die, but how we are going to live. They are treating me as a person and looking at my illness holistically. I'm not just a breast. I'm not just a liver.

"Since I've been here, I haven't once heard the word ' death'. I am going to live – and what's more, I'm going to change the culture that creates such fear and desperation".

Kay, who witnesses recently diagnosed cancer patients coming into the pharmacy regularly, endorses Beth's attitude: "If you go to the doctor in Wales with cancer, they can almost frighten you to death. I've seen how the approach here gives people confidence.

"They've treated Beth as a human being and shown her what she already knows – that you don't have to give up".

But this method, which is not without its critics, comes at a price. Beth's trip – funded by the generosity of local people – amounts to over £20,000. The weekly combination of hyperthermia, bio-resonance, ozone therapy and counselling costs 4,000 euros, with travel, food and accommodation and daily prescriptions for an array of herbal and alternative preparations on top.

Beth's decision to access this treatment has met with resistance from many of the routine doctors she has seen and it is not acknowledged as an effective method by the NHS or by leading cancer charities in the UK. I asked Dr. Wolf, the clinic's founder, who has a background in psychiatry from Heidelberg University, whether there was proof that hyperthermia worked:

"Yes, of course. I've been practising it for over 30 years. There have been studies done. But I don't like to talk about survival rates.

"We are interested in the quality of a patient's life. I would hope that Mrs. Margetson's tumours will not grow any bigger, so that she can live a few more years. But it is impossible to predict exactly how long someone will live.

"It depends on how they got their cancer and many other factors. We look at the body, mind and soul".

Was he bothered by the critics? "No. I am used to it. The problem is that traditional methods, like chemotherapy, are all bound up with a multi-million euro industry. It's all politics and money.

"You have to contend with the 'pharma-mafia'. And trying to get both sides of medicine – the alternative and the orthodox – to agree is like trying to create harmony between Israel and Palestine. You used to be able to get this treatment via our Krankenkasse (German health insurance), but it was stopped in 2004, due to the cost".

Does he not think that chemotherapy and other orthodox methods have their place?

"Yes, but I'm not a friend of chemo. If you look at those flowers over there.... if they were wilting, you wouldn't pour poison on them, would you? And that's what chemotherapy essentially is".

The clinic does, in fact, administer a low-dose form of chemotherapy, called Insulin Potentation Therapy. Again, this has been criticised as an ineffective and even dangerous treatment, with caveats noted on both Wikipedia and Quackwatch.

The same goes for bio-resonance, which uses electromagnetic waves to diagnose deficiencies and surpluses in a patient. When Beth has her session, she is told that she has too much acidity and lead in her body and a deficiency of Vitamin C.

During my three day stay, Beth is also prescribed Vitamin B17, which comes from the stones of apricots and other fruits. It is not authorised for sale in the EU and banned by the FDA in the US.

I push Alexander Meister, International Patient Care Manager at the clinic, sitting by Dr. Wolf to translate, for further evidence of their treatment's efficacy. Given the extent of Beth's cancer, how long would they expect she can survive?

"We hope that Mrs Margetson will live as long as she wishes to. Having said that, and knowing what we know about cancer, we see her coming as a first step into a new direction she is undertaking.

"Time will tell us if her goal to see her daughter studying can be replaced by the goal to raise her grandchildren. Because we are all individual, with different genes, living backgrounds, dietary preferences etc, we'd rather focus on extending their living (sic) expectancy, than on curing cancer.

"A nearly impossible, but reachable task. There is a study on our website which shows that liver cancer patients who have hyperthermia have a 250 per cent greater chance of finding health than those who do not".

Of "finding health"? "Yes. The study was carried out by Dr. Sasz for SEER. It means that these patients who have hyperthermia have a 250 per cent greater chance of extending their lives than those who don't".

I ask Alexander, a welcoming, warm young man, with a degree in European Business Management from Cardiff, how he deals with the critics.

"I agree with Dr. Wolf. You'll never get the conventional doctors and the alternative ones to agree. We both talk medicine. But it's like a nuclear and a solar engineer. They both "talk electricity", but from a completely different perspective.

"In the UK, I hear that patients are constantly told how long they have to live. What hope is there left when you do that? We'd rather say...how do you strengthen the immune system? Let's look at the patients' nutrition.

"We offer a palette of treatments and it's hard to say which one works. We're not allowed to use the word 'cure'. It's even banned in America. We're not God, so we don't know how long an individual has. But we don't lay our hands on a patient when they come through our door and say everything is gone. Everyone in the clinic here swears on an oath" .

So their hopes for Beth?

"In an ideal scenario, Mrs. Margetson will live until she is 80. Yes, that has happened". He hesitates. "But of course, it is not the norm".

When I push him regarding efficacy of hyperthermia, he adds: "Studies – the one I've just mentioned – show that liver cancer patients WITHOUT hyperthermia have a 250 per cent worse chance of prolonging their lives, of being cured, of being healthy again". A mention, after all, of being cured. This is what Beth will cling to.

Out in the waiting room, I meet other patients. There is a four-year-old boy from Poland waiting for treatment with his parents. He has a sarcoma on his lower leg. The clinic is forbidden by law from treating German children.

Next to them sits a 44-year- old man from Ireland, whom Beth has befriended during her stay. "Jim" has been ill for over four years, with bowel cancer initially, which has now metastasised into his liver, lungs and aorta.

Unlike Beth, he is withdrawn and exhausted looking. The father of three teenage daughters has already travelled to a private clinic in Mexico –"not much good – they only took some blood and didn't do much else" – and claims that he rid himself of most of his cancer a year ago simply by consuming wheatgrass.

"That sort of cancer therapy is big in Ireland". This time around, however, that method has failed to work. He sits staring at the floor, sipping the liver-cleansing tea provided by the clinic, his enormous eyes hollow and tired within his gaunt face.

"This method has got to work, hasn't it?" he says quietly."Just look at all the new people walking through the door every day. I'm annoyed that my tumour markers have gone up since I've been here, but they've told me that this is common mid-treatment and that I shouldn't worry".

A lighter moment! Clockwise from top left: Ffion Margetson, Bev Poulton and Beth.

Beth has taken "Jim" under her wing, bolstering him with her positive outlook, endlessly entertaining approach, supplies of organic food-and utter faith.

"Don't you worry about that. It's due to a flare or spike in levels in response to the treatment. It doesn't mean anything. Come on, now Jim. Let's get a bit more positive, shall we?".

During my three days with Beth, she undergoes a catalogue of treatments: as well as the Vitamin C infusions, ozone therapy in which her own blood is infused with oxygen then reinserted into her body and bio-resonance therapy. There is the local hyperthermia directly on to her liver and the much less tolerable whole body hyperthermia.

Coffee enemas are recommended, an approach pioneered as part of the much-criticised Gerson therapy. Beth is adamant that this holistic approach is the way forward.

"I have a degree in Public Health and I'm a qualified nurse and midwife. I know how to research things –and I wouldn't have come here at a cost of £25,000 if I didn't think it was going to work. I'm a bit of a pariah though with the doctors back home. Conventional oncologists will do anything within their power to make you not go ".

I sit with Beth during one of her hyperthermia sessions, taking over briefly from Ffion, who has been resolutely beside Beth, every step of the way. Suspended on a hammock, over an infra-red lamp, Beth soon gets hotter and hotter and is literally dripping with sweat. It is uncomfortable to watch, but Beth, full of resolve and her unshakeable faith, still manages to talk:

" The hotter I get, the more agitated I become. But I'm better this week. I was hysterical last week. I close my eyes and lie here and just visualise the tumours popping. I'm okay. I'm okay".

Hyperthermia as a treatment has its roots in ancient Egypt, Greece and Rome. Liquids heated up to a vapour on stones and bricks were used to treat what was probably breast cancer. It has been referred to by some as the "fourth leg" of cancer treatment, but it is still not recognised as a mainstream option and lacks regulation.

But there are doctors who acknowledge its benefits. A few months ago, Beth consulted Justin Stebbing, Professor of Cancer Medicine at Imperial College, London, much in the news lately regarding his views on immunotherapy, which he believes is the way forward in the war against cancer.

Stebbing has written about hyperthermia treatment in the medical journal, The Lancet: "There's a lot of evidence that hyperthermia can work.

"The few, but impressive trails are evidence that this is not just anecdotal technology, but one that warrants continued investments and investigation. The studies' improvements in tumour responses would generally be hailed a success had they been a pharmaceutical product.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 23

ABOVE: Beth with fellow patient Hannelore. BELOW: With the clinic owner, Dr Peter Wolf.

Porthcawl woman's fight to beat cancer means braving painful treatment regime in Germany

By CAROLINE SARLL

(Continued from page 22).

"Hyperthermia requires trained personnel and specialised equipment. Scepticism is often justified but data is increasing and the design of ongoing studies is robust. It is time that this technology is given the attention it deserves".

I ring Dr Stebbing for a chat. He is the only doctor who is willing to talk to me, despite weeks of trying to access an opinion from the conventional arm of medicine:

"The problem is that there is no standardised technique for this kind of therapy yet. So it has not done itself any favours. We don't have comprehensive data yet – but what is there is promising. Hyperthermia is closer to conventional medicine than Chinese medicine and you can use it next to any modality ".

The day I leave, I am given the opportunity to talk to another patient, 62-year-old Hannelore, from Germany. Diagnosed with breast cancer five years ago, she had a lumpectomy, then came to Hannover for this treatment. She remained cancer free for four years, but discovered a lump in her other breast last year.

"I hadn't cleansed my soul" she tells me gently. "I know why it came back". Hannelore believes firmly in this method and comes to the clinic every two weeks for one day .

"It is expensive, but chemotherapy and radiotherapy cost more. I'll know when to stop coming. I know when I feel healed".

Biokrebs, the leading organisation in Germany dealing with "biological" and alternative cancer therapies states : "Concerning metastatic tumours of the liver, hyperthermia is excellent when combined with chemotherapy, increasing the remission rate by 12 per cent.

"It is not yet a widely acknowledged treatment in oncology, even though there are numerous clinical studies. Hopefully, the majority who still think that hyperthermia is the dead-end among oncology methods, might be convinced of the opposite and become less sceptical in the future".

Beth and I have a final meeting with Dr. Wolf. He tells her that the "few cancer cells she has are not going to kill her" and, extraordinarily, that "she can live a hundred years".

You can tell that this doctor has a background in psychiatry. To him, imparting the feelgood factor in his patients is key. And who are we to argue with that?

Will Beth have a scan at the end of the three weeks? "No. She should go by how she feels. Go home and rest. Continue with our therapies. Then come back again in a couple of months".

To do that, a further £20,000 will need to be raised. Dr. Wolf tells me that the ideal course of treatment is "six weeks each time", which would take the cost for Beth to nearer £40,000.

When it's time for me to go, Beth becomes tearful, as she has done when each group of visitors has left her. I reflect on my three days in Hannover with this extraordinary woman and her lovely young daughter and I bow to her ongoing bravery and courage.

To her irrepressible positive outlook, her amazing sense of humour, her stoicism and her inspirational attitude. Yes, the German treatment is controversial and expensive, but – and here's the rub – what price can you put on hope?

And are our doctors, "the spineless sheep leading such a vital service" Beth refers to, simply closing their eyes to this non-drug-based approach, when, in reality, if the trials are to be believed, it really can help eradicate some tumours? If the latter is the case, the need to act is urgent.

One thing cancer sufferers – and that includes Beth – do not have on their side, is time. "Smokescreens and political claptrap needs to go" says Beth angrily.

"There are people dying in droves because the doctors and specialists are in thrall to the drug companies".

Just before I leave, I ask Beth if she has reassessed her goals since being there.

"Yes, I have. I wanted to see Ffion get to University, but now I'm going to see her get married...maybe divorced (giggles all round)...and I'm going to be there to see her through pregnancy and childbirth.

"I'm going back to Wales now and I'm going to open up a juice bar – not much room in the vestry at Tabernacl, but I'll have a go. I'm going to tell people in Wales about this....where can you get a green juice in Wales?

"You can get a Mcdonald's on every corner, but not an organic juice! Here there are organic supermarkets everywhere. No wonder we are ill. And we've got to stop all this fear and money...and Godless culture. I'm a testimony to faith. I'm in a good place".

ABOVE: Beth, coping with the extreme heat of a treatment session.

In the background, in a now homely apartment littered with bulging fruit bowls, clothes and bottles of medication, Linda is making organic minestrone, to be served with gluten-free flatbread, oxygenated water and organic fresh fruit salad.

Ffion is practising her ever-improving German, grinning from ear to ear. "Danke Schoen!" she chirups, proud of her linguistic aptitude and perhaps unaware of yet another coping mechanism she has developed.

Beth, delivering irreverent comments machine-gun style, looks as radiant ("fabulous fuschia lipstick!") as ever. Grabbing an organic orange, she starts planning a weekend trip to Berlin.

When she gets there, she texts me: "My tumour markers are down by 300!". Full of cancer she may be, but our Beth, unafraid of grappling with the Goliath that is our current medical system and unafraid of a disease she will not allow to conquer her, continues to be full of zest.

Long may she – and the fundraising – continue.

Caroline Sarll added: "I would like to thank KLM for their generosity in sponsoring my flights to Hannover. Without their support, I would have been unable to cover this vital story"

ABOVE: Another of the clinic's special treatments.
BELOW: Mother and daughter. keeping each other's spirits up.

Helping the young to build self esteem

Vale Mayor Coun Howard Hamilton presented the prizes.

THE Vale Council's youth service team held a presentation evening at The Hub on June 27 to celebrate the success of young people on the Emojis project.

This empowers young people to express themselves, and build self-esteem.

There was a presentation of certificates by the Mayor of the Vale, Coun Howard Hamilton, who was delighted at how much the young people had achieved in such a short period.

The Emojis project runs over a 10 week period and is split into two age groups, junior aged 8 to 12, and senior aged 13 to 16.

The evening was well attended by young people and parents and carers alike, and was supported by Families First, Fact, Barry YMCA and The Hub, as well as the Youth Service who provide the workers for the project.

Valeways walks

ON Wednesday, July 30 at 10.30am, the coffee shop strollers meet at Romilly Cafe, Cold Knap, Barry.

Film screenings mark centenary of Great War

THE Memo Arts Centre will be presenting a number of special events and film screenings to mark the First World War centenary.

In the 1920s, the people of Barry wanted to provide a memorial for the many Barrians who had given their lives during the First World War.

Combined with the wholehearted support of the people of Barry and the extremely generous help of the Davies family (descendants of David Davies who founded the docks) they succeeded, and they built the Memorial Hall Theatre and Cenotaph, which opened in November 11, 1932.

To mark the commemoration of the 100th year since the start of World War One, the Memo has programmed a series of events and film screenings, including a special screening of *Hedd Wyn* (12) at 1pm and 7pm on Monday, August 4, with free admission.

A spokeswoman said: "Following the evening screening, the Memo and Royal British Legion (Wales) Barry Branch invite you to join them at the Cenotaph as part of a nation-wide event, Lights Out, to mark the hour that Britain entered the First World War one hundred years ago.

"Lights Out invites everyone in the UK to turn off their lights from 10pm until 11pm leaving on a single light or candle for this shared moment of reflection.

"We invite people in Barry to join us at the Cenotaph at 9.30pm, where you can light and leave your candle to be part of this special commemoration event at 10pm."

Hedd Wyn is free, but tickets can be reserved in advance – please call the box office on 01446 738622, or visit the website www.memoartscentre.co.uk.

HOUSING SERVICE VISITS THE VALE

THE Vale Council's Housing Advice Team has been touring the rural areas of the Vale, offering advice to residents.

The team visited Dinas Powys, Llantwit Major, St Bride's Major, and Cowbridge, answering questions about homelessness, letting policies, and home ownership schemes.

Their aim was to provide a mobile service to the rural areas of the Vale, allowing residents the benefits of a face-to-face meeting without having to travel to Barry.

A council spokesperson said: "Plenty of residents turned up to quiz the team on housing issues, and there was lots of positive feedback, especially from disabled residents who appreciated being able to park wherever the team set up.

"The encouraging turnout and positive response has meant that the team have already started to plan more events for the future."

Age Connects launches 'cancer advocacy service'

AGE CONNECTS Cardiff and the Vale has launched a new Cancer Advocacy Service which will provide one to one support to anyone over the age of 50 who is affected by cancer.

A spokeswoman explained: "By providing information on matters ranging from treatment and care to social, employment and financial difficulties, our advocates can support you to make informed decisions and help ensure that healthcare professionals, social services, benefits and other agencies understand and respect your wishes.

"Our advocacy service is free, non-judgemental and confidential and is available throughout Cardiff and the Vale. Working in partnership with Macmillan Cancer Support and OPAAL UK we aim to provide a listening ear and help resolve issues to improve quality of life and wellbeing."

If you, or someone you know needs support or advice, please get in touch with the team at Age Connects by calling 029 2068 3681 or send an email to copa@ageconnectscardiff.org.uk

Three-year dementia plan is unveiled

LEFT: Mrs Mary Thomas, a patient who helped launch the plan.

A THREE-year plan to tackle an expected 53 per cent rise in the number of people with dementia in Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan was launched recently.

Simon O'Donovan, clinical director for mental services for older people at Cardiff and Vale University Health Board, said: "This is the first time that health, local authorities and other partners have come together to bring such a focus on dementia and take a wide ranging view of how to tackle what will be such a significant problem going forward."

Coun Stuart Egan, Deputy Leader of the Vale Council, said: "The plan is the outcome of close cooperation between the Vale Council, the Cardiff and Vale University Health Board, Cardiff Council and our third sector partners.

"Service users and carer representatives have been involved throughout. They have been advising us about how best we can help them manage the consequences of this condition, which can be so devastating.

"One way of providing effective care is to help create a 'dementia supportive community'. This is defined by the Alzheimer's Society as one in which people with dementia are empowered to have high aspirations and feel confident, knowing they can contribute and participate in activities that are meaningful to them.

"It is planned that two such communities will be identified, one in Barry and one in Cardiff West, prior to further roll out across the Vale and Cardiff."

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Apes sequel one of the best films of the year!

by GARETH JAMIESON
Follow Screen Talk on Twitter – @GEMScreenTalk

WHEN it was announced that the *Planet of the Apes* franchise was being revived with *Rise of the Planet of the Apes* in 2011, the auspices weren't great, Tim Burton's much-pilloried 2001 're-imagining' leaving a sour taste.

The 2011 film, however, went on to achieve both critical and commercial acclaim, leaving audiences hungry to pick up the rise of Caesar and the simian community.

With Matt Reeves (*Cloverfield*) taking over directorial duties from Rupert Wyatt, *Dawn of the Planet of the Apes* finds us 10 years on after events of the first film, with Caesar (Andy Serkis) leading the apes in a community of their own, while humanity has been struck down by a fatal flu.

When a group of survivors, led by Malcolm (Jason Clarke), attempt to broker peace with the apes to live in harmony, it sets in chain events that could be deadly for both sides...

The use of motion capture has risen and improved since its inception, with *Rise of the Planet of the Apes* benefiting from this early work, and also the skill of Andy Serkis and his ability to convey performance through this new technological technique.

The art has been taken onto a whole new level with *Dawn of the Planet of the Apes*, but aside from the technological achievements on show, the film delivers the most intelligent blockbuster of the summer season, weighted with a narrative that wholly engages and transcends what could have been a gimmick-driven follow-up to a thoughtful film.

In fact, it improves upon the building blocks set up by its progenitor.

The marvelling at how incredibly rendered the apes are cannot be discounted, but it counts for nothing if the performances do not convince, and there are some astounding turns on show, the story being driven by the apes' relationship with each other, as much as that of their relationship with humans.

Andy Serkis has become the figurehead of this wave of motion-capture performance, but his performance as Caesar is simply incredible; you begin to forget just how much effort and work has gone into making the character visually impressive, but behind the computer effects lies a performance of noble power.

Caesar is aptly named as he faces threats both from the outside world and from the gorgeously-realised woodland community the apes have called home, and Serkis offers a turn of wonderful subtlety, conveying emotion simply with a hand gesture or a facial tic.

While the Oscar academy refuse to acknowledge this as an acting performance (what exactly it is otherwise is hard to fathom), you won't find many better this year.

Toby Kebbel, as Caesar's right-hand ape Koba, is just as impressive, and it's a strength of both the performance, and the writing, that while a darker character, he never explicity plays the villain of the piece, his behaviour wrong, but justified.

The relationship between the two is almost Shakespearean, and anchors the story, the moral arguments the jumping off point.

The human cast feel a touch underdone by comparison but a good turn from Jason Clarke (a vastly under-rated actor) is the pick of the bunch, with the rest solid but underwritten.

The script's decision to put intelligence and spectacle together benefits the film greatly, the story carrying punch and avoiding clearly delineated 'heroes' and 'villains'; there are those on both sides of the human/ape divide.

Matt Reeves' direction is perhaps the most surprisingly pleasing aspect of the film; each shot is wonderfully constructed, while the action moments not only are incredibly realised, given the effort involved, but also pack a punch.

An ape attack two/thirds of the way through the film is stunningly shot, so good that the actual climax itself feels a little cliched, but Reeves' stock should no doubt rise after such an impressive display.

While there are some story moments that feel a little too predictable, you'll be hard-pressed to exit another film this year so impressed by its technological achievement. That it's married to strong performances and wonderful direction makes *Dawn of the Planet of the Apes* one of the strongest films of the year so far.

VERDICT – There's no monkeying around here – while you can't help but be blown away by the effect work on display, *Dawn of the Planet of the Apes* thrives on executing the fundamentals of storytelling, delivering an epic and emotional new chapter to the franchise. Andy Serkis' performance will draw deserved praise, but with Matt Reeves' directorial scope, this is a tremendous film. *Highly recommended*.

SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED: *Rise of the Planet of the Apes* (2011), *District 9* (2009)

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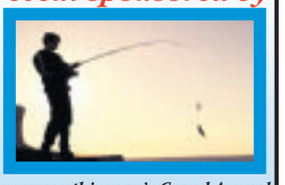
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New independent school options for Cowbridge and Bridgend families

FAMILIES looking for an independent school will soon be able to consider Westbourne School in Penarth thanks to a new bus service that will run daily from Bridgend/Cowbridge to Penarth and back from September.

The service will allow Vale students to benefit from the high standards of education and excellent GCSE results that Westbourne has achieved in the last 20 years.

It will also increase access for more students to study the prestigious International Baccalaureate Diploma Sixth Form programme.

Westbourne is currently the only day school in the Vale of Glamorgan to offer this course which is considered the 'gold standard' in sixth form studies by many top universities.

Commenting on the new service, Mr Underhill, principal of Westbourne School, said: "We know this will be good news for families across the Vale who have recently had their options limited with the unexpected and sudden closure of St John's School in Porthcawl. To help these families in particular, we are committing to offer reduced fees to former St John's pupils and there will be no additional charges for the new bus route.

"Westbourne also has a range of scholarships available to those demonstrating academic potential and we hope that more pupils from across the Cowbridge and Bridgend area will now be able to take advantage of these."

For further information please contact the school's admissions manager, admissions@westbourneschool.com.

CADETS ENJOY AIRSHOW

AIR Cadets from 372 (Barry) Squadron, recently travelled to the Royal International Air Tattoo at RAF Fairford to see the world's largest military airshow.

The Air Tattoo not only includes thrilling flying action from over 250 aircraft from Air Forces around the world, but the cadets were also treated to non-stop entertainment on the ground with many interactive displays.

The Cadets saw many impressive displays, including the F16 Fighting Falcon, Tornado, Typhoon, the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight, the Red Arrows; the French, Spanish and Italian aerobatic display teams.

Cadet Alex Cheeseley said: "The flying displays were really cool. My favourite display was seeing the Red Arrows."

The Cadets who attended were: Nathan Thompson, Jake Paterson, Jon Spragg, Alex Spragg, Ellie Poulakis, Zena Poulakis, Rhys Lewis, Nathan Loxton, Jacob Petre, Dominic Bushell, Kieren Bushell, Rachael Carbis, Alex Cheeseley and Pippa Cowles.

The Cadets are now looking forward to an action packed programme of flying, gliding, shooting, sports, training camps, visits and expeditions.

If you have a spirit for adventure, 372 (Barry) Squadron have vacancies for boys and girls between 12-17 years old. The Squadron parade on Mondays and Wednesdays 7pm–9.30pm behind Adams Funeral Parlour (by the Memorial Hall) or you can phone the Squadron on 01446 747734, email oc.372@aircadets.org or visit www.372squadron.org for more information.

JH

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Open letter from Westbourne School to parent's of St John's, Porthcawl

Tuesday, 22nd July 2014

Dear Parents,

We were very sorry to hear news of the closure of St John's. You will be understandably devastated and you have our sincerest sympathies for the disruption this will involve to you children's education and your daily lives. We have always regarded St John's as a kindred spirit, with a similarly strong sense of community and family ethos, standing apart with us from other independent schools in the area.

We understand that stability and continuity will be paramount in your mind. As most of you will know, your previous Headmistress Mrs Carol Clint joined us at Westbourne as our Head of Junior School in April and has settled in very quickly as part of the Westbourne family.

All of us at Westbourne – and Mrs Clint in particular – would like to help you at this difficult time if at all possible. To this end, from September, Westbourne will:

1. Run an additional bus route from Cowbridge/Bridgend to Westbourne every morning and returning after school.

2. Honour the fees for ex-St John's pupils for 2014-15 as advertised on the St John's website, including any existing scholarships and/or bursaries, subject to our usual entry requirements and scholarship/bursary policies. Bus fees will be included in these fees.

3. From 2015-16 onwards, fees will only rise at the same percentage rate as for all other Westbourne pupils.

If joining Westbourne may be of interest to you, please call Mrs Clint or our Principal, Mr Ken Underhill, on 02920 705 705 to arrange a confidential discussion.

In whatever path you now choose for your children, we wish you all the very best through this uncertain time.

Yours sincerely,

Ken Underhill and Carol Clint

TY IOLO HOSTS GARDEN PARTY

STAFF and volunteers at the Ty Iolo hostel in Barry hosted a garden party for its residents to help spruce up the garden area.

There were also arts and crafts activities for the resident children, as well as a barbecue.

Members of The Shine Project – which provides advice for young parents who are homeless or in danger of being homeless – donated plants and flower pots, and worked with the children to decorate the pots and plant the flowers in them.

They also held a craft session for the children to paint pebbles that are now proudly displayed in the garden.

The Workers' Education Association attended and held an iPad workshop for the residents, as well as a cupcake decorating session that proved very popular with the children.

Twelve plants were kindly donated to the hostel by Wenvoe Garden Centre, and hardware giants B&Q donated a £10 gift card. The VFM Meat Superstore also gave a discount on the food purchased for the barbecue.

Many other volunteers turned up to help on the day, including Angela from the Citizens Advice Bureau, who helped dig up the garden and plant some flowers and plants.

Sue Evans, a local resident took charge of the gardening, and has since been back on a few occasions with plants from her own garden to put the finishing touches to the project.

Ty Iolo staff would like to thank everybody who helped make the day a success.

'Willow is a sweet girl'

The GEM has joined forces with the Dogs Trust to find suitable homes for inmates at the Bridgend rehoming centre.

"WILLOW is a five-year-old labrador cross, and is a very sweet girl, who will take her time to get to know you but is definitely worth the wait!

"She loves to have a good run off lead in our field, and would like her new owners to keep up with her exercise. She can be quite a sensitive girl, especially with visitors to the house, so she will need time and patience to settle into a new environment.

"Anyone interested in rehoming Willow will need to visit the centre a few times to build up a bond with her. We are working on her socialising training with other dogs, and will advise on how to keep this up in her new home.

"She can live with children 14 years and over. She has a lot of potential and with time, we feel she will make a lovely companion for someone."

If you can offer Willow a home, call on 01656 725219 or pop into Dogs Trust Bridgend, open 12 – 4pm Tuesday – Sunday, with late night opening on Wednesdays til 7.30pm. There are lots of wonderful dogs here looking for homes, so if you have room in your life for a loving companion, please do come and see who is here.

'The importance of creating a routine'

Double world record holder Maria Leijerstam from the Vale, founder of the Burn Series of multisport events and qualified personal trainer, will inspire you with a weekly column on simple family sporting adventures in the beautiful countryside of south Wales. Maria will guide you on how and where in your area you can combine sport and fitness into family fun.

EVERY week I'm asked questions about sport, so here is a small selection and hopefully some useful information that you can apply to your sporting life.

Question: After work I just don't have the energy to do sport, what should I do?

Starting out is always the most difficult part and this is where routine often helps. Try and identify what is causing you lack of energy so you can make some changes and remember that a sedentary life makes you even more tired, it's a vicious circle.

Ensure you have plenty of variety in your sport, maybe some running, some gym work, a swim, a yoga class and a cycle each week will keep you interested. Spend time working out what you like to do and to do this you need to experience lots of different sports.

Question: Should I take part in the mini burn event if I've never kayaked before and don't know how to paddle?

You're not alone. Many people have not been in a kayak because until now it's not been readily available. At mini burn we'll assist you every step of the way and believe it or not you'll pick it up very quickly. The kayaks we use are the most stable kayaks available today.

Neal, our water safety man, will paddle alongside you if you need extra reassurance.

Question: Should I buy a road bike or a mountain bike?

As a first bike, I always suggest to buy a mountain bike because it's so much more versatile. You can cycle on road, trail or mountain. Road bikes are all about speed because the weight, gear ratios and thin rims lend themselves to this.

Mountain bikes tend to have suspension for a more forgiving ride and wide rims to give you the grip you will need on uneven terrain. Cycling is such a diverse sport you could end up spending lots of money, so if it's just to get you cycling then go for a mountain bike. There is a huge variety but don't be phased, just go for something basic.

In 2010, I headed off to New Zealand to cycle the length of the country and I used my mountain bike with two sets of tyres; slicks and treaded tyres. The mountain bike was very comfortable for the long hours and had weight bearing capabilities which were vital for my panniers, which were filled with 23 days of supplies. I cycled 80 per cent on road and 20 per cent off road.

Send me your questions and I'll make sure they are answered for you. Log onto www.burnseries.co.uk/youradventure for full details.

Make sure you join me next week for more adventures.

The Open Gardens Trail in Penarth

THE gardens open in Penarth this week are at:

164 Redlands Road Penarth open Sat/Sun;

77 Coleridge Ave Penarth Sat/Sun;

113 Plymouth Road Penarth Sat only;

135 Plymouth Road Sat only;

133 Westbourn Road Sat/Sun;

Sully Terrace private allotments, between 65 – 67 Westbourne Road, open Sat only;

1 Cosmeston Cottage, Lavernock Road Sat/Sun;

6 St Peter's Road, Penarth Sat only 12noon – 6pm;

4 Tudor Close, Westbourne Road Sat/Sun.

The times of opening are: Saturday 10am – 6pm and Sunday 11am – 5pm.

Entrance to all gardens is by Rover ticket purchased at any address above, including tea/coffee at 4 Tudor Close.

Children entrance free. All proceeds to the Children's Society.

History talk

THE Rhoose and District History Society's next talk is by Dr Toby Jones.

His topic is 'The Newport Medieval Ship Project'.

All are welcome on Friday, July 25 at 7.30pm in the rear hall of Rhoose Community Centre, Stewart Road, Rhoose.

Tickets at the door, £1 per adult; 50p per child (under 16).

Play Rangers in Dinas!

YOUNGSTERS will be able to enjoy a Play Rangers scheme in Dinas Powys over the summer.

The venue is Murch Field Sunnycroft Lane and is organised by the Vale Council in conjunction with Dinas Powys Community Council.

The first event is on Tuesday, July 29 from 1.05pm to 3pm and then on August 5, 12 and 19. Activities include arts, crafts, sports and den building. All the events are free.

On Wednesday, August 20 from 11am – 3pm there's a Family Fun Day.

The events will be managed by experienced Vale Council staff. Come and enjoy!

Tourist railway

THIS weekend (July26/27) Barry Tourist Railway (at Barry Island railway Station) is hosting a Hornby model railway exhibition, 11am to 4pm each day.

The full-sized vintage railcar train and other old trains will also be running, and the 1940s cafe will be serving drinka and light snacks.

For more information, telephone 01446 748816.

Vale Seconds just lose out in tightly-fought encounter with Machen

VALE Seconds lost to Machen Seconds in a tightly fought contest at Corntown by 13 runs.

Having won the toss the Vale elected to field first. A wicket apiece and some accurate bowling from opening pair Matt Harper and Luke John pegged Machen back and after the first 10 overs Machen were 44-2.

Adam Jones was the first change bowling option and again bowled well, bowling good line and length resulting in economical bowling figures of six overs for 14 runs. At the other end youth was supplemented by the slightly older head of club chairman Iwan Davies who once again bowled a miserly spell of eight overs, 2-13.

At the end of the 30th over Machen were well contained at 85-4.

However, over the next 15 overs Machen were able to add 89 runs and build a respectable total of 174.

This was despite Luke John returning to take three wickets in his second spell to finish with match figures of 4-43 off nine overs.

Although not taking a wicket young Alex Upham bowled very well, turning in six overs for 16 runs. The bowlers were well supported by the fielders with Adam Jones and Iwan Davies both taking two catches apiece and other catches being held by Paul Gilbert and Aaron Stephens.

Despite the loss of Richard Evans early on, Paul Gilbert and Aaron Stephens built a solid second wicket partnership of 70 to give the side a foundation to chase the target.

Once again Stephens had made a steady contribution before being caught for 27. However, while Gilbert remained a solid presence the loss of regular wickets hampered the run chase and slowed down the Vale run rate.

Mark Stephens and Guv put together a useful 36 run partnership before Mark Stephens was adjudged lbw for 17 despite getting a big inside edge onto his pad.

Then a partnership of 22 from Gilbert and Luke John took Vale to within 25 runs of the target but when Gilbert fell for an excellent 72 the target proved just beyond Vale and the side finished short on 161-8 off 45 overs.

An excellent game but probably just a few too many runs given away towards the end of the Machen innings.

Some slow scoring mid-innings cost the Vale victory but lots of promise from the youngsters and experienced heads making significant contributions augurs well for the remainder of the season.

MF

SIMON JUST MISSES OUT

THE professional at Cottrell Park Golf Club, Simon Cox, was unlucky earlier this week when he just missed qualifying for the British Senior Open at Royal Porthcawl by one shot.

Simon (62) shot a 75 around the testing links course at Ashburnham on Monday (July 21).

The championship starts today (Thursday) and concludes on Sunday.

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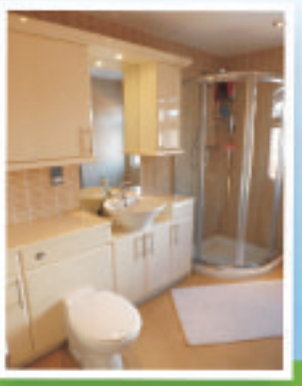

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ATHLETIC HOLD END OF SEASON PRESENTATION

BARRY ATHLETIC FC under-13s recently held their end of season presentation evening.

The event was held at the Barry Athletic Sports Ground and was well attended by players and parents. It was that extra bit special this year as the boys were awarded their trophies by Curtis Watkins of Cardiff City FC.

Curtis has recently signed professional terms with CCFC and has also represented Wales at under-15, under-17 and under-19 levels and has scored against England in the Victory Shield.

After Curtis presented the players with their awards, he was kind enough to spend some time with them during a question and answer session.

Joe Allwood picked up the awards for supporters' player of the year, players' player of the year and manager's player of the year and Dan Barnett was voted most improved player of the year.

The management team would like to thank Tema Fabrications and Flocom for their kind donations for the raffle prizes and Barry Athletic FC would like to wish Curtis all the very best as he embarks on his professional footballing career.

AB

NEWS FROM BARRIVALE CLUB

LATEST results from Barrivale Bridge Club for July 15:

1st Mark Roderick & Peter Millar 59.38%; 2nd Mike Close & Mike Best 53.65%; 3rd Noelle Bond & Denis Mottram 52.60%. Mark Roderick and Peter Millar also won on handicap.

New members are always welcome at Barrivale. For details, telephone 01446 418380 or 01446 733425 or call at the Pioneer Hall, Beryl Road, Barry on Tuesdays at 7pm.

DR

Senior Open draws competitors from across the world!

AS PART of Cottrell Park Golf Resort's schedule of open events, the Senior Open took place on July 16.

Ian Howell was named the overall champion with 46 points on the Button Gwinnett course, along with Paul Aynge who came in with 38 points on the Mackintosh.

There were 282 entries, the largest open tournament in the UK. Players came from from Carmarthen to Los Angeles, with visitors from over 30 different golf clubs.

Further results from the day included:

Mackintosh course: (Visitors first, then members) winners: Paul Aynge (Llanishen) 38 pts, Ron Chamberlain 38 pts, runners-up: Richard Board (Southerndown) 37 pts, Gregor Munro 38 pts. Third: Dyfrig Edwards (Southerndown) 37 pts, Ian Browne 37 pts, fourth: Colin Airey (Gower).

Nearest pin 8th: Ken Davies (Machynys), nearest pin 15th: Mike Pritchard (Vale), longest drive 18th: Godfrey Lewis (Cottrell Park Golf Resort).

Button Gwinnett course: (visitors first, then members) winners: Chris Goucher (St Athan) 41 pts, Ian Howell 46 pts, runners-up: Kevin Rich (St Mellons) 40 pts Aneurin Jones 42 pts. Third: Mal Evans (Machynys) 38 pts, John Cashman 40 pts, fourth: Rob King (Whitchurch) 37 pts.

Nearest pin 9th: John Griffiths (St Mellons), nearest pin 16th: Roy Whitehouse (St Athan), longest drive 5th: Meirion Chestney (Cottrell Park).

The putting competition was won by Ron Boyce from St Mellons.

AH

Bowlers caught short

The ladies team at Rhoose Bowling Club travelled to Cadoxton Bowling Club for their double rink match on Tuesday, July 15.

Forced through the late withdrawal of two players, Rhoose had to play one player short on each rink. Mo Dutton's rink managed to draw but Rachel Oxley Green's rink lost by 7.5 shots to 16.

This meant that Rhoose lost the match by 19.5 shots to Cadoxton's 28.

JH

Millwood on tour!

MILLWOOD Bowling Club took a trip down to visit Tenby Bowling Club for a friendly game.

As it turned out, there was beautiful weather, a pleasant trip down, a wander round the town shops and a bite to eat for lunch before meeting at the clubhouse for the afternoon's game.

Although Tenby ran out winners by 16 shots, 107-91, a very enjoyable game was had by all, even though their green took a bit of getting used to as it took a while to figure out how much 'turn' the green was taking.

Is this to be an annual event? Only time will tell - thank you to all who organised the trip.

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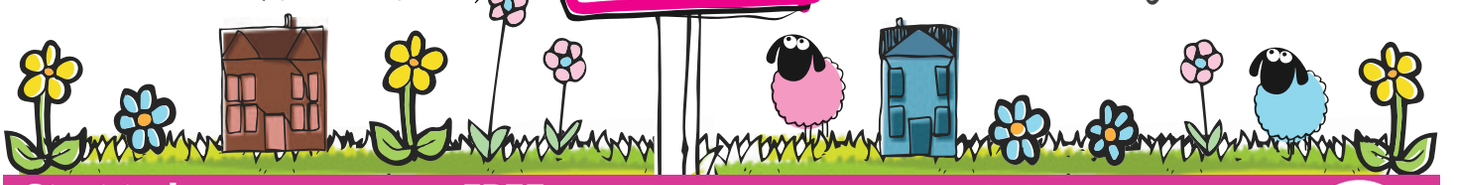

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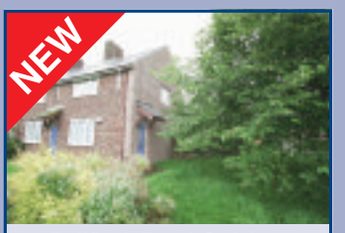

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1,797,552 o fetrau ciwbig y flwyddyn.

Defnyddir y dŵr at ddiben trosglwyddo i ragnant ddienw Nant Craig yr Aber yn SS 85653 84477 heb unrhyw ddefnydd ymyrrol.

Gellir archwilio copi o'r cais, y map, y cynllun ac unrhyw ddogfen arall a gyflwynwyd ag ef, yn rhad ac am ddim, yng nghyfeiriad Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru ym Maes Newydd, Llandarsi, Castell Nedd Port talbot, SA10 6JQ yn ystod oriau swyddfa arferol (Llun-Gwener, ac eithrio gwyliau banc).

Ceir manylion cryno'r cais hefyd o'r Gofrestr Gyhoeddus a ddelir gan Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru yn y cyfeiriad uchod, a gellir eu harchwilio yn rhad ac am ddim hefyd yn ystod oriau swyddfa arferol.

Mae'n rhaid i'r sawl sydd am wneud sylwadau ynghylch y cais wneud hynny yn ysgrifenedig, gan ddyfynnu enw'r ymgeisydd a'r Cyfeirnod WPCC 1626 i Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru, yn Y Tim Trwyddedu Adnoddau Dŵr, Y Ganolfan Drwyddedu (Caerdydd), Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru, Tŷ Cambria, 29 Heol Casnewydd, Caerdydd CF24 0TP neu drwy e-bost at permittingconsultations@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk nid dim hwyrach na 21 Awst 2014.

Am ragor o gyngor ynghylch gwneud sylwadau, mae taflen - 'Gwneud i'ch barn gyfrif' ar gael am ddim ar gais gan swyddfeydd lleol Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru. Gellir gwneud unrhyw ymholiadau cyffredinol ynghylch yr hysbysiad hwn trwy alw 0300 065 3000.

Llofnodwyd: Emma Allcorn
Ar ran Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru
Dyddiad: 24 Gorffennaf 2014

Water Resources Act 1991 (as amended by the Water Act 2003)

Notice of application for a transfer licence to abstract water

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with Section 37 of the Water Resources Act 1991 and Regulation 6 of the Water Resources (Abstraction and Impounding) Regulations 2006 that an application has been made to Natural Resources Wales by The Coal Authority for a licence to abstract water from two mine water surface discharges at Cefn Cribwr, Bridgend, at National Grid References SS 85637 84815 and SS 85704 84909.

The proposal is to abstract water at the following rates and periods:
205.2 cubic metres an hour,
4,924.8 cubic metres a day and
1,797,552 cubic metres a year

The water will be abstracted for the purpose of transferring to an unnamed tributary of the Nant Craig yr Aber at SS 85653 84477 without intervening use.

A copy of the application, map, plan and any other document submitted with it may be inspected free of charge at the address of Natural Resources Wales at Maes Newydd, Llandarcy, Neath, Neath Port Talbot, SA10 6JQ during normal office hours (Monday-Friday, except bank holidays).

Summary details of the application are also available from the Public Register held by Natural Resources Wales at the above address and may also be inspected free of charge during normal office hours.

Any person who wishes to make representations about the application must do so in writing, quoting the name of the applicant and Reference Number WPCC1626 to Natural Resources Wales at Water Resources Permitting, Permitting Centre (Cardiff), Cambria House, 29 Newport Road, Cardiff, CF24 0TP or by email to permittingconsultations@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk by no later than 21 August 2014.

For further advice about making a representation, a leaflet - 'Making your views count' is available free of charge on request from local Natural Resources Wales offices. Any general enquiries about this notice can be made by telephoning 0300 065 3000

Signed: Emma Allcorn
On behalf of Natural Resources Wales
Date: 24 July 2014

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Anniversaries

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Family Notices

MADDOCKS
Joan
(of Cowbridge)

Much loved wife, mother, grandmother, great grandmother, aunt and friend, passed away on June 30th. Joan will be missed in so many ways by all the family, friends and by many in the community. Memorial Service to be held at St. John The Baptist Church, Llanblethian on Saturday 2nd August at 11am. Donations to Alzheimer's Research UK.

DAVIES
Oswald John
(Aged 87)

Peacefully on 16th July in the Princess of Wales Hospital. Funeral service at Holy Cross Church, Cowbridge on Monday, July 28th at 12 noon, followed by interment.

No flowers by request, donations to Cancer Research Wales, Velindre Hospital, Whitchurch, Cardiff, CF14 2TL.

HOLLAND
Keith Edward (Stix)

Suddenly on 15 July at home, Keith Edward (Stix), aged 70 years of Rowan Court, St Nicholas Road, Barry. Much loved father of Andrea, Darren, Christopher and father-in-law of Lucas and Julie. Cherished grandfather of Lowri, Rhodri, Rhys, Daniel, Lili and Ffion. Loving brother of all his family and friends.

Resting at AG Adams & Son Funeral Home, Gladstone Road, Barry until the funeral on Friday, 1 August. Service in the chapel at 11am, afterwards cremation at Barry Crematorium. Family flowers only, if desired, donations may be handed to the funeral director after the funeral for the British Heart Foundation.

EVANS
Jean

Don and Joanne wish to thank all those who have supported them in their sad loss, the many cards and expressions of sympathy have been a great comfort to them.

They are grateful to everyone who attended Jean's funeral service, some having travelled many miles to do so. Their deep gratitude must go to the doctor's, nurses and staff at Llandough Hospital and Marie Curie Hospice Penarth for the care and attention they gave to Jean.

May she now enjoy eternal peace.

BROOK
David
of Aberthin, Cowbridge

Died suddenly on July 17th at Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend. Loving husband of Gloria, dearly loved father of Antony and Tim and father-in-law to Suzanne and Lucy. Much missed grandad to Emily, Dylan, Daisy, Myles and Poppy.

Funeral Tuesday, July 29th, service and cremation 1.15pm at Coychurch Crematorium. Family flowers only, donations in lieu, if desired to prostatecanceruk.org

COOK
Colin
(of Rhoose)

Colin, aged 83 years, sadly passed away at The Old Rectory Care Home, Wenvoe, on Friday July 18. Now reunited with loving wife Nan, dearly loved father of Colin, Rosemarie, Nannette, Julie, Chris, Nick and the late Norman, and all of their partners, his grandchildren and great grandchildren and the extended family. Sadly missed by all his friends and colleagues.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W James & Sons, Fonmon. Funeral Friday August 1, service and cremation 12.45pm at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry. Family flowers only to Funeral Home, donation in lieu, if desired to British Heart Foundation, c/o Mrs. C. J. James, 11 Fonmon Road, Rhoose, CF62 3DZ.

DOONAN
Carla Marie Louise

Passed away at home on July 17th, Carla, aged 36 years, much loved mother of Jordan, beloved daughter of Geoff and Jenny, much loved sister and sister-in-law of Kerry and Bruce and aunty of Matthew. She will be greatly missed by all her family and friends.

Resting at the private funeral home of The Vale Funeral Service, 181 Court Road, Barry until the funeral on Friday August 1st, service at the Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium at 3.00pm.

By Carla's request, only immediate family to attend the service, however if you wish to remember Carla, please send donations to Epilepsy Action, New Anstey House, Gateway Drive, Yeadon, Leeds LS19 7XY. Family flowers only please.

WOOSNAM
Francis

Peacefully passed away on 20th July, aged 93. Beloved husband of Eira, much loved father of Philip, Eryl, David and Sylvia, dear father-in-law of Glyn, Anne, Anne-Marie and David. Cherished grampy to Alison, Gareth, Bethan, Rhys, Kate, Emma, Gareth and Tom and great-grandchildren Matthew, Ellis and Grace.

Will be sadly missed by all family and friends.

Funeral service at Coychurch Crematorium on Monday, August 4th at 1.15pm.

Family flowers only.

WILLIAMSON
Celia (Ann)

Peacefully at Llandough Hospital on July 17th, Ann, aged 78 years, much beloved mother of David, Susan and Michael and dearly loved grandmother and great grandmother.

Already greatly missed by all her family and friends.

Resting until the funeral on Tuesday July 29th, service at The Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium at 3.00pm where friends please meet.

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KEEPMOAT FUNDRAISER RAISES £8,000 FOR CHILDREN'S HOSPICE

Photographs by Lauren Jay at www.lovablemoments.co.uk.

A TOTAL of 88 golfers turned out in support of Keepmoat's annual charity golf day to raise funds for Tŷ Hafan.

Twenty-two teams took part in the Keepmoat charity golf day on Tuesday, July 8 in a bid to raise £6,000.

The event raised £8,000 for the Tŷ Hafan hospice which cares for children with life-limiting illnesses in Wales, over £1,500 more than last year.

The Tŷ Hafan hospice, located in Sully, needs to raise £3.7m million a year to provide care and support to life-limited families in Wales.

Alison Stallard, head of business and community fundraising at Tŷ Hafan, said: "Keepmoat has been a tremendous supporter of Tŷ Hafan for many years.

"We are really pleased that the annual golf day was such a success and the fantastic amount raised will make such a difference to support our work with life-limited children and their families from across Wales."

Keepmoat's project manager Steve Locke said: "I'm pleased that the event was a success and we hope to be able to donate an even higher figure in 2015!"

The cheque presentation.

Second prize.

First prize.

Third prize.

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Barry YMCA athletes head to Glasgow!

BARRY YMCA can proudly announce that we will be sending two of our incredible gymnasts to the 2014 Commonwealth Games in Glasgow.

After a gruelling selection process, Clinton Purnell has been selected as captain of the Welsh team, with his teammate Iwan Mepham, as well as Joseph Rowland as first reserve.

The team was selected by the technical director, Andrew Morris from Welsh Gymnastics, along with Welsh national coach, Pete Haysham, who assessed the gymnasts in four competitions starting from the 2013 Welsh Championships.

Despite it being a very difficult time for the boys, due to various injuries, the team pulled together with intense dedication and determination and have achieved this fantastic goal.

This wouldn't have been possible without the commitment the boys and Pete Haysham have shown to their sport. On average, the team have been training for 30 hours per week to make Wales proud in the Games!

Clinton Purnell has won the Welsh Championships for four consecutive years and thoroughly deserves his title of captain. This is a remarkable achievement in his gymnastic career and we at the Barry YMCA could not be more proud of him.

Iwan Mepham came second in this year's Welsh Championships, claiming a gold medal on high bar from an exceptional performance. This is following his success as the under-17 champion at the 2013 Celtic Cup.

Iwan, at 17, is one of the youngest male gymnasts Wales has ever sent to the Games, and again, we are all so proud of him.

Joseph Rowland, despite dislocating his knee and setting his training back, has been selected as first reserve for the team. He has medalled at two Celtic Cup Championships and won the under-10, 12 and 16 Welsh Championships. Joe is training hard following his injury and aspires to compete at the 2018 Commonwealth Games in Gold Coast. We have every faith that Joe will achieve this aspiration and we are so proud to have him representing the YMCA and Wales.

We would like to thank and congratulate Pete Haysham for his commitment and contribution to getting the boys where they are today, and huge congratulations to the boys selected. We have great pride in your achievements and value your commitment to the club. We wish you all the best in the Games.

KAREN DAVIES

New Broad Street Motors voted Wales' favourite garage

NEW Broad Street Motors on Cardiff Road, Barry, has been voted Wales' Favourite Garage of the Year 2014 by its customers in a scheme run by Motor Codes, the government-backed, self-regulatory body for the motor industry.

The scheme is designed to identify and acknowledge local garages that consistently offer excellent customer service and gives motorists a formal way of showing their appreciation as well as letting other car owners know where they can go to find the most trustworthy and honest garages.

Ian Morgan, director of New Broad Street Motors, said: "I am delighted for the team who work so hard to provide the best possible service to be given this recognition. It is very important to us that we come across as transparent and trustworthy and we continually strive to achieve this."

The garage, which has been in business for over 33 years, is also a member of *www.approvedgarages.co.uk*, the UK's fastest growing car repair, car servicing and MOT booking network.

All garages that sign up to the scheme are members of Motor Codes and adhere to a strict code of conduct that is independently set and then inspected and verified by the RAC/AA and are committed to an open, transparent and fair way of doing business.

Vale First XI are back on winning track

VALE 1st XI got back to winning ways with a four-wicket victory over Machen in a match reduced to 39 overs per side.

Having won the toss, Vale skipper Paul Sheppard quickly inserted the home side on a green looking wicket, which brought the visitors early rewards. Ollie Pike bowled a quick seven over opening spell which resulted in three wickets, including two good slip catches from Sheppard and JJ Davies.

At the other end, Darren Upham picked up a wicket thanks to a well-taken catch in the covers by Matthew Williams.

JJ Davies replaced Upham and bowled an excellent eight over spell, picking up two wickets for only 13 runs, with Williams picking up a second catch in the covers.

Williams then replaced Pike and picked up two wickets to reduce Machen to 53-8, and at that stage it looked as if there would be an early finish to the innings.

However, Ben Clifford and Miguel Nurse had other ideas and smashed an 83 run partnership which included five sixes before another excellent catch by Williams at deep mid wicket off Billy Yates accounted for Clifford for 58.

Mark Francis wrapped up the innings in the last over as Machen's last man was bowled with one ball remaining of the innings, with the home side 145 all out with Nurse unbeaten on 37.

Vale's bowling figures were Ollie Pike 8-3-18-3, Darren Upham 8-1-37-1, JJ Davies 8-4-13-2, Matthew Williams 8-3-34-5, Mark Francis 4.5-0-32-1 and Billy Yates 2-0-6-1.

Vale's reply started with a solid opening partnership of 35 between Ben Horton and JJ Davies before Davies was caught low down at mid off.

Six runs later Sheppard departed as first slip took a juggling catch. After one boundary Yates was out, playing on to Machen's off spinner Singh.

With the score on 68. Horton was out trying to pull, only to give a caught and bowled catch having made a solid 34.

At 68-4 Machen were still in with a chance but this was quickly extinguished by Williams and JP Davies, who put together a fine 72 run partnership to take the game away from Machen.

Williams finally perished, bowled for 43 and JP Davies followed soon after lobbing a catch behind square falling for 25.

It was left to Gareth Andrews to hit the winning boundary behind square to bring a much needed win for the Vale 1st team.

MF

Fine win for the Athletic

ON Saturday Barry Athletic 1st XI entertained The Welsh Asians at The Island Oval.

Captain for the day Steve Provis won the toss and asked his opponents to bat first and The Welsh Asians were soon in trouble with Steve Jones removing Ahmed for 6 with the score on 17.

Jones struck again with the score on 36, Steve Provis then took three wickets, all caught behind by Nathan Baker, to leave the score 104 for 5.

There was then a partnership of 76 before Hellyar struck to make it 180 for 6, and the last four wickets fell for 35 runs in five overs with Dafydd Frost taking three wickets, The Welsh Asians all out for 215.

Barry's reply got of to a solid start before Hugh Smith was run out for 8 with the score on 32; this brought an out of form Nathan Baker to the wicket and what a time it was to get back into form as he and Goodway added 82 for the second wicket before Goodway fell for a fine 59.

The very next ball, Paul Murphy was out for 0, the score 114 for 3, but this just brought captain Provis to the wicket to carry on his fine form and with Baker they took the score to 218 for 3 with Baker ending with a fine and patient 73 not out, Provis with 61 not out in 44 balls and a fine win for Barry, Nathan Baker also took four catches behind the wicket.

Barry Athletic would also like to thank RIM Motors for sponsoring Saturday's match.

The 2nd XI lost by 8 wickets in their away game at Newbridge - Barry 104 all out, Newbridge 107 for 2.

On Sunday Barry's 3rd XI entertained Pontypridd, with their opponents batting first and getting 239 for 5, with A Collins getting 202 not out.

In reply, Barry scored 183 for 8 with fine knocks from Murphy 32, Goodway 51 and a maiden senior 50 for Kieron Ferriday, who got 51, Ferriday also picking up 2-34 and showing some fine promise.

This week the 1st XI are away at Miskin Manor, the 2nd XI are at home to Croesyceiliog and the 3rd XI are away to Pentyrch.

On Saturday, August 16, Barry Athletic will be holding an open day/former players and captains day, in conjunction with the ECB and Waitrose; there will also be a race night, and sponsors are required for the races - there will be eight races and to sponsor a race will be £25.

For further information please contact Mark Rees on 07570 135831 or email markrees509@hotmail.com.

MR

Under-strength Barry sevens team impress

A hastily assembled Barry side travelled the short journey to Ysgol Bro Morgannwg to take part in a sevens tournament.

With most of the other teams seemingly much better prepared for the tournament, there was little hope pinned on the green-and-whites doing well, especially with them being drawn in a tough group.

A defeat by a strong Old Penarthians side could have demoralised the threadbare Barry squad, which only contained eight players, but the players' spirit and skill level shone through in the next two group games.

Cardiff Meds and Bro Morgannwg were both well beaten to see Barry into the semi-final.

Their opponents there were the tournament favourites Llanharan, but they found Barry in no mood to just make up the numbers in the latter stages of the tournament.

A see-saw game ended with Barry edging the game 14-12 to send them into the final.

The final saw Barry up against Old Penarthians, who beat them earlier in the tournament. Unfortunately, despite best efforts by the thin squad they battled in vain as they lost 14-12, ending up as runners-up in the tournament.

The experience gained by the players should put them in good stead in the forthcoming season where greater challenges lie ahead.

Squad: T Perry, T Scott, A Adams, O Poole, J Hadfield, J Giddings, B White, M Hamonda.

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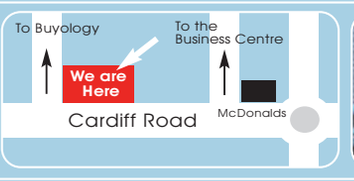

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10 10 BMW 318ISE in Black with 54000 Miles **£10,995**
09 09 MERCEDES C350 in Navy with 80,000 miles **£10,995**
12 12 ALFA ROMEO MITO 1.4 Multiair 135 Veloce 3dr in white with 30,500 miles **£9995**
12 12 Renault Clio in Silver, Sat Nav with 5,500 miles **£9,495**
12 62 FIAT 500 Lounge in Tech House Grey with 1,100 miles **£8,995**
62 12 VAUXHALL CORSA in blue with 24932 Miles **£8,795**
13 63 HYUNDAI i20 in White with 8,000 miles **£8,695**
10 60 FORD FOCUS TITANIUM in Black with 33,490 miles **£8,495**
LAND ROVER DISCOVERY in Black **£8,495**
10 10 FIAT 500 Diesel Edition 1.2 Petrol in Diesel Green with 39,800 miles **£8,295**
59 09 SEAT ALTEA in Silver with 36780 miles **£7,995**
09 59 FORD FIESTA TITANIUM in Biege with 22865 miles **£7,995**
07 57 VOLKSWAGEN GOLF PLUS with 56,360 miles, in silver **£7,995**
11 11 VAUXHALL Meriva in Black Sapphire with 31,372 ..... **£7,895**
11 11 FORD Fiesta 1.25 Zetec in Graphite Grey with 40,000 miles **£7,295**
10 60 SEAT IBIZA 1.4 in Emocion Red with 21,389 miles **£7,295**
08 08 FORD FOCUS in Silver with 37,750 miles **£7,295**
05 05 MINI COOPER S 1.6 3d in Ash Grey with 48,229 miles **£6,995**
10 60 RENAULT MEGANE in Black with 48,000 miles **£6,795**
11 11 FIAT PUNTO in Red with 23,300 miles **£6,495**
11 61 TOYOTA AYGO in White with 27,550 miles **£6,495**
08 08 FORD FOCUS 1.6 TD Style 90 5-dr in Tuxedo Black, 48,000 miles **£6,495**
07 57 VOLVO V50 2.0D SE 5-Dr Estate in Mystic Silver, 64,916 miles **£6,495**
09 59 PEUGEOT 207 1.4 Diesel with 64,250 miles, in black **£5,995**
09 58 VAUXHALL ASTRA in Blue with 90,000 miles **£5,995**
S6 MINI ONE in White with 71,885 miles **£5,995**
PEUGEOT 206CC in Silver with 3199 miles **£5,995**
09 09 RENAULT MEGANE 1.6 16v Expression 5dr in Racing Blue with 47,904 miles **£5,495**
05 05 BMW 320d SE 4dr 2.0 with 102,857 miles **£5,495**
08 08 VAUXHALL ASTRA in Black with 41,850 miles **£5,295**
07 57 FORD FOCUS CMAX in Blue with 57402 miles **£4,995**
07 07 FORD FOCUS in Red with 51500 miles **£4,995**
03 03 AUDI TT 1.8T QUATTRO 2DR in blue with 88,650 miles **£4,995**
09 58 CITROEN C1 1.0i Rhythm 5dr in Deep Sea Blue with 40,000 miles **£4,795**
97/P MAZDA BONGO in Black with 106213 miles **£4,495**
07 07 VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6i 16v SXi Easytronic with 68,600 miles **£4,465**
07 56 FORD FIESTA 1.25 Silver 3dr in purple with 34,476 miles **£4,295**
06 56 MERCEDES A170 Avantgarde SE 3dr in Iriduium Silver, 80,000 miles **£3,995**
07 07 RENAULT Modus with 58,550 miles, in red **£3,990**
06 06 PEUGEOT 207 in Grey with 73923 miles **£3,495**
04 04 FORD STREETKA Luxury in Star Silver with Black leather, 43,000 miles **£2,495**

04 04 FORD Streetka Luxury **£2,495**

06 06 PEUGEOT 207 **£3,495**

09 58 CITROEN C1 1.0L Rhythm **£4,795**

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Barry Comprehensive students show off their sporting expertise!

Year-8 discus – Declan Ewington.

The year-7 1,500m, with Jack Blackmore leading.

The year-7 relay.

EARLIER this month, Jenner Park Stadium hosted Barry Comprehensive School's annual sports day in glorious sunshine.

Students from years 7, 8 and 9 spent the day competing in a number of athletic events, varying from hurdles and sprints, middle distance jumps and throws, with the tug-of-war added to encourage all students to be involved in their 'House' sports event.

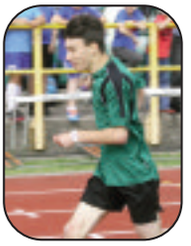
The day proved to be a great success with keen competition between each House and year group, with eventual winners Gruffudd House.

Sixth form students were employed as part of their Welsh Baccalaureate experience to organise the tug-of-war event.

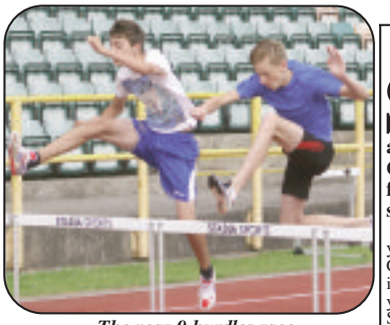
Events ran smoothly throughout the day, overseen by Mr Hutton and his recording team, while Mr Manley and assistants Mrs Laugharne and Miss Rowe took charge at the start, while events on the track and field were orchestrated by Mr Williams and many other willing staff, especially Miss Walters on the ding-a-ling.

There were some fine athletic performances from boys from each year group, exemplified by James Cassidy from year-7 who broke the school 300m record that was set in 2002.

Well done to all students involved for their support and effort – and to all staff who gave time to officiate the events!



James Cassidy who broke the year-7 300m record in sportsday set in 2002. James ran 44.6 secs.



The year-9 hurdles race.

Year-9 high jump – Harrison Riseborough.

Wealth of experience combined!

SSANGYONG MOTORS has announced the appointment of Tanners Cardiff as its new dealer for Cardiff and the surrounding area.

This brings together the 45 years of experience that Tanners Cardiff have achieved in business in the capital city and the 60 years of experience that SsangYong have been building vehicles.

This means that the full range of SsangYong 4x4s and SUVs, all backed by a five-year limitless mileage warranty, is now available in Cardiff.

The dealership will operate the SsangYong franchise from its premises at Whittle Road, Leckwith Industrial Estate, Cardiff, CF11 8AT.

Welcoming the company to the network, Paul Williams, CEO of SsangYong Motors UK said: "We and our dealers are focused on giving customers great service, so whether buying a new or used SsangYong, choosing accessories, or helping to maintain their car in the years ahead, we are confident customers will appreciate the car, their dealer, and the brand."

Commented Phil Tanner, dealer principal at Tanners Cardiff: "We are delighted to have been appointed to represent SsangYong and greatly look forward to playing our part in its success. SsangYong has a great range, and with very competitive pricing and a five-year limitless mileage warranty on every car, we believe it will do extremely well in our area."

Tanners are holding a Ride and Drive Day on Saturday, August 2, at the Copthorne Hotel, Culverhouse Cross, and the public is invited to just 'roll up' and drive one of these superb cars. The full range of SsangYong cars will be available. Special offers on the day.

PARALYMPIC STAR SIGNS UP FOR CYCLE CHALLENGE

Paralympic gold medallist Mark Colbourne MBE at Tŷ Hafan with hospice family Bridget and Elain James.

WELSH Paralympic cyclist Mark Colbourne will join hundreds of fundraisers for Tŷ Hafan's popular 52-mile Taff Trail Cycle Challenge on Sunday, September 7.

Now in its 12th year, the GVA sponsored challenge, has become a highlight of the cycling event calendar, attracting participants from every corner of Wales, as well as from over the border.

Cyclists will set off from Brecon, enjoying some of Wales' most picturesque scenery before receiving a heroes welcome at the finish line in Bute Park, Cardiff.

Participants can also take part in the Half Taff challenge; a slightly shorter route of 26 miles starting in Merthyr Tydfil.

Mark Colbourne MBE, an avid supporter of the Sully hospice, said: "I can't wait to join hundreds of keen cyclists and families in September."

Entry is £10 per cyclist; full details at www.thetafftrail.co.uk or contact 029 2053 2276.

Free bus to the golf!

SPECTATORS attending this month's Senior Open Championship presented by Rolex can ride to the event at Royal Porthcawl Golf Club in style – on an open top double decker bus as part of an exciting local community initiative.

On all four days of the championship, from July 24-27, the free bus service will operate between Parkdean Holiday Park, Porthcawl town centre and the golf course to transport golf fans to and from the world class competition taking place on the south Wales links.

It is a combined initiative between BCBC, Porthcawl Town Council, the Senior Open Championship, as well as a number of local business located in Porthcawl.

Porthcawl Town Council is also organising 'Bus Ambassadors' to meet and greet the public.

MILLWOOD ARE BACK ON FORM

THERE was a welcome return to winning ways for Millwood in the latest Division 3 game against a very determined side from Ynysangharad Park, Pontypridd.

On a very warm, muggy afternoon which threatened thundery outbreaks, we were very glad that the rain kept away, although the green was found to be a little on the 'spongy' side, but did not deter Millwood form producing some good bowling earning a 17 shots win over Ynysangharad.

With this win Millwood picked up a well-earned 12-2 points win.

At five ends Millwood were leading 19-10, after 10 ends it 40-29 to Millwood, and then after 15 ends it was 58-45, with Millwood winning after the scheduled 21 ends by the 17 shot margin.

Once again the game was played in the best of sportsmanship, as every bowling game should be played.

This Saturday Millwood are away to Murch, and with only five more Division 3 games left they need to keep the momentum going.

In a rather one sided game, with the home side Murch 'A' unable to play the four rinks with all players, though a player down, Millwood 'A' took full advantage and romped to a 58 shot win, and therefore taking a full 14 points from the game!

It is very difficult to overcome playing a rink with one man short, but to play all rinks with a man short must have been very disheartening for the home side. All credit to Murch 'A' for making a game of it, though Millwood 'A' would have liked to have played against full rinks.

On the fifth end, Murch were only two shots adrift, 15-13, but after 10 ends the score was 41- 20 against Murch; after 15 ends Murch were 65-34 down, finishing after 21 ends 107-49.

This Saturday, Millwood 'A' are home to Ynysbwl 'A', with another four division games to play.

'Join triathlon' call by Barry Beavers

BARRY Beavers Disabled Swimming Club triathlon team are calling for local athletes to join them in raising money for their club.

Chris, Cath and Rob raised over £2,000 last year with the help of six other triathletes. The money helped to run the popular swimming club attended by children and adults with a wide range of disabilities.

The club meet every Saturday, 3.45pm-4.45pm at Barry Leisure Centre, for fun and activities, as well as some serious swimming.

They hope to raise even more money this year and challenge others to join in the triathlon. Last year's winner Chris Economides, club instructor at Barry Beavers, completed the event in 1 hour 23 minutes, followed closely by Patrick Jones and Linda Ruston.

The triathlon will be held on Sunday, September 14, starting from Barry Leisure Centre at 9.30am. The event is open to individual competitors and teams. It consists of a 40 length swim, 10km bike ride and a 5km run.

The entry fee is £10 for individuals and £15 for groups.

Application forms for the triathlon can be obtained from Sarah Davies, telephone 01446 421632 or email sarahdavies2110@gmail.com.

The closing date for entries is August 14.

ABOVE: Chris, Kath and Rob of the Barry Beavers triathlon team.

Golf day helps unit

RECENTLY, consultants from Nuffield Health Cardiff & Vale joined local GPs and medical suppliers for a golf tournament at the Vale Resort to celebrate their first year of the new hospital name.

In the evening, a fundraising dinner, organised by Nuffield Health, collected £500 in aid of the NHS Cystic Fibrosis Unit at University Hospital, Llandough.

A spokeswoman said: "Recently, one of the Nuffield team in Cardiff had cause to use the services at the Cystic Fibrosis unit at Llandough Hospital and received very good care.

"As a result, Nuffield Health staff felt it was important to say thank you and to support NHS specialist units, because the NHS can and does deliver very well this type of long term care for chronic conditions.

"The fundraiser was a small event but hopefully the start of a supportive relationship between the hospital and the cystic fibrosis unit as it strives to raise over £2m for further development."

Dr Ian Ketchell, director of the CF Centre, and Lorraine Speight, manager of the CF unit, attended.

Simon Rogers, Nuffield Cardiff and Vale Hospitals director said: "I am pleased so many local GPs, consultants and partners came to celebrate our first year as Nuffield Health Cardiff and Vale hospitals."

Gravells Kia opens new £2m dealership in Bridgend

GRAVELLS KIA has become Kia's largest dealership in Wales, opening an impressive 12-car showroom, a five-bay workshop and display area for 40 used cars in Bridgend.

The dealership opens just as news breaks that Kia has hit a new sales record for June and, for the first time ever, has exceeded 40,000 new car sales in the first half of the year.

The Welsh-speaking, family business, with a strong reputation for customer service, is opening its fourth Kia garage on the Bridgend Industrial Estate.

The £2m investment is expected to create around 20 jobs for local residents over the next 18 months.

Jonathan Gravell, Gravells' managing director, said: "We are delighted to open Kia's largest and newest dealership in Wales. Previously our loyal Bridgend customers have travelled to Swansea or Kidwelly to buy or service their cars, so it's great to be able provide a more local service for them as well as many new customers."

Gravells started in Kidwelly in 1932, and is now run by the third generation of the family.

They are a major community sponsor, supporting the Urdd, the National Eisteddfod, major sports teams such as the Scarlets and Swansea City, as well as grass roots sporting organisations and local choirs.

A formal opening celebration will take place in September with support from the Urdd and local schools, underlining Gravells' commitment to the local community.

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11 CITROEN C3 1.6 Diesel
In black, 52,000 miles, 1 owner
£7,495

56 MERCEDES 350 CLK Convertable Auto
In met Silver/blue hood, grey leather, 59,000 miles
£9,995

07 HONDA JAZZ 1.3 DSi Sport
Electric blue, 44,000 miles
£4,995

12 MAZDA 2TS 1.4 5-DR
In met black, 31,000, £30 road tax
£6,995

54 MERCEDES 350 SLK Convertable Auto
In root-silver, full leather, sat nav, air scarf etc
£7,995

08 LAND ROVER Discovery 3 2.7 Diesel HSE, Automatic, 7-Seater. in silver with black leather, 58,000 miles, high spec **£19,995**
09 VW Scirocco 1.4 TSi. In white, black leather, sun roof, etc, 43,000 miles **£11,995**
10 BMW 118 Diesel Sport 5-Dr In met grey, 71,000 miles, very nice example **£9,995**
56 MERCEDES 350 CLK Convertable Auto In met silver /blue hood, grey leather, 59,000 miles, sat nav ... **£9,995**
12 CITROEN C3 Picasso 1.6 Diesel VTR+ In silver, with sat/nav, alloys etc **£8,995**
11 RENAULT Grand Scenic 1.6 Dynamique 7-seater. In ice blue metallic, 27,000 miles, 1 owner **£8,495**
12 FIAT 500 Lounge In volare blue with glass roof section, £30 road tax, low insurance **£7,995**
09 MERCEDES B150 SE Auto In silver, 53,000 miles, sunroof, alloys, nice example **£7,995**
54 MERCEDES 350 SLK Convertable Auto In met-silver, full leather, sat nav, air scarf etc **£7,995**
11 CITROEN C3 1.6 Diesel. Exclusive In black, 52,000 miles, 1 owner **£7,495**
59 SKODA Octavia 1.9 Diesel SE Estate. In silver, 75,000 miles, nice example **£7,495**
60 FORD Focus 1.6 Zetec (100) 5-Dr In white, 31,000 miles, alloys, a/c **£6,995**
59 VAUXHALL Zafira 1.9 Diesel Active plus In met grey, 59,000 miles, 7-seater **£6,995**
12 MAZDA 2TS 1.4 5-Dr In met black, 31,000 miles, £30 road tax **£6,995**
10 FIAT 500 1.4 Lounge In red, 40,000 miles, 1 owner, very stylish **£6,795**
10 PEUGEOT 308 'S' 1.6 Auto 5-Dr In silver 31,000, miles, a/c, c/d etc **£6,495**
09 FORD Fiesta 1.4 Diesel (68) Zetec 3-Dr. In black, 66,000 miles, £20 road tax **£6,495**
08 HONDA Civic 1.3 Hybrid 4-Dr. In met blue, full beige leather, 55,000 miles, 1 owner, petrol/electric **£6,495**
59 FORD Fiesta 1.2 Style 5-Dr In met blue, 12,000 miles, low insurance **£5,995**
59 SEAT Ibiza 1.4 Sport 5-Dr In red, 65,000 miles, 2 owners, a/c etc **£5,995**
09 RENAULT Clio 1.5 Diesel Dynamique 'S'. In red, 32,000 miles, £30 road tax **£5,995**
09 FORD Focus 1.8 Zetec 5-Dr. In black, 53,000 miles, 2 owners **£5,995**
58 MAZDA MX5 1.8 In copper red metallic with light grey leather, 73,000 miles **£5,995**
07 SEAT Leon 1.9 TDi Stylance 5-Dr. In black, 65,000 miles, a/c, alloys etc **£5,995**
07 HONDA Civic 1.8 Sport 5-Dr. In silver, 43,000 miles, very nice example at **£5,995**
52 BMW X5 4.4 V8 Sport Auto. In met blue with black leather, fantastic value at **£5,995**
59 RENAULT Megane 1.6 Dynamique. New shape, 62,000 miles, in met silver **£5,695**
09 FORD Focus 1.6 Zetec 5-Dr In met blue, 75,000 miles, ideal family hatch **£5,495**
58 RENAULT Clio Dynamique 1.2 Estate In silver, 60,000 miles with a/c, alloys **£5,495**
08 NISSAN Note 1.4 Acenta. In electric blue, 39,000 miles **£5,495**
08 VAUXHALL Zafira 1.6 Breeze 7-seater in met blue, 24,000 miles **£5,495**
08 VAUXHALL Zafira 1.6 Breeze 7-Seater In met blue, 24,000 miles **£5,495**
54 VOLVO V70 2.4DE SE Auto. In met sand, beige leather, 90,000 miles, 1 owner **£5,495**
58 VAUXHALL Vectra SRi CDTi 150 5-Door. Silver, 63,000 mile diesel at **£5,395**
59 KIA Rio 1.4 5-Dr. In black, 1 owner **£4,995**
59 HYUNDAI i30 1.4 Comfort 5-Dr In met blue 38,000 miles, alloys, a/c etc **£4,995**
09 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.4 SXi 5-Dr. In silver, 59,000 miles with with a/c **£4,995**
09 NISSAN Micra 1.2 Acenta 5-Dr Automatic. In silver, 23,000 miles **£4,995**
57 VAUXHALL Astra 1.9 Diesel Elite 5-Dr. In turquoise blue, 55,000 miles **£4,995**
07 HONDA Jazz 1.3 DSi Sport. In electric blue, 44,000 miles, very desirable at **£4,995**
03 MERCEDES SLK 2.3 Auto. In electric blue with black leather, 90,000 mile convertable **£4,995**
09 HYUNDAI i10 Classic 1.2 5-Dr. In silver, 39,000 miles, low insurance, £30 road tax **£4,795**
55 MINI One 'Seven Edition'. In met-red, 73,000 miles, alloys, a/c etc. **£4,795**
08 FORD Focus 1.8 Zetec Climate 5-Dr. In met-blue, 71,000 miles, 1 owner **£4,695**
09 HYUNDAI 130 Comfort 5-Dr In silver, 54,000 miles **£4,495**
08 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.4 Club 3-Dr. In silver, 60,000 miles, alloys, a/c **£4,495**
57 PEUGEOT 308 1.6 Sport 5-Dr In black, 49,000 miles, a/c, alloys **£4,495**
08 RENAULT Scenic 1.6 Dynamique Automatic. In sand met-sand, 30,000 miles **£4,495**
04 HONDA CRV Executive Automatic. In met-blue with black leather, sat-nav, s/roof, a/c etc **£4,395**
08 CITROEN C3 Rhythem 1.4. In ice blue, 49,000 miles, a/c, c/d **£4,295**
07 FORD C-Max 1.6 Diesel Zetec. In silver, 84,000 miles, family hatch **£4,295**
03 MINI Cooper 'S'. In electric blue/white roof, full leather, pan roof, climate, 1 owner **£4,295**
59 CHEVROLET Aveo 1.2 S 3-Dr In black full leather trim, 46,000 miles **£3,995**
09 CHEVROLET Aveo 1.2 LS 5-Dr. In silver, 24,000 miles, fantastic value at **£3,995**
56 RENAULT Scenic 1.6 Dynamique. In met sand, 33,000 miles, very nice example at **£3,995**
56 RENAULT Megane 1.9 Diesel Dynamique 3-Dr. In black, 60,000 miles **£3,995**
06 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.4 Design Automatic 5-Dr. In silver, 32,000 miles **£3,995**
06 RENAULT Clio 1.4 Dynamique 3-Dr In black, 73,000 miles, low insurance **£3,995**
58 VAUXHALL Meriva 1.6 Design. In met blue, 59,000 miles, alloys, a/c etc **£3,995**
08 FORD Fiesta 1.2 Zetec Blue 3-Dr In met blue, 64,000 miles, a/c, alloys **£3,995**
08 PEUGEOT 107 Urban 5-Dr In silver, 37,000 miles with c/l, e/w, £20 road tax **£3,995**
08 FORD Fiesta 1.2 Style Climate 3-Dr In met blue, 64,000 miles, a/c, c/d etc **£3,995**
05 HONDA Jazz 1.3 'Custom Special'. In orange over black, 35,000 miles, this car has had thousands spent to make it unique **£3,995**
06 FORD Focus 1.6 Zetec 5-Dr In black, 77,000 miles, ideal family hatch **£3,695**
56 FORD Fiesta 1.2 Style 3-Dr. In ice met blue, 36,000 miles, very nice example **£3,495**
56 PEUGEOT 3-7 'S' 5-Dr 1.6 HDi In silver, 61,000 miles, superb MPG **£3,495**
55 CITROEN Picasso 2.0 HDi Desire In silver, 68,000 miles, family hatch **£3,495**
56 PEUGEOT 207 1.4S (90) 3-Dr. In electric blue, 63,000 miles with a/c **£3,295**
55 MAZDA 3 1.6 TS 5-Dr In black, 66,000 miles, 2 owners **£3,295**
58 VAUXHALL Astra 1.7 Diesel Life Estate. In white with a/c, cd, etc **£2,995**
57 FORD Focus 1.6 Zetec 5-Dr Automatic. In silver with a/c alloys, cd, etc **£2,995**
56 VAUXHALL Meriva 1.6 Enjoy. In black, 65,000 miles, 1 owner **£2,995**
06 CITROEN C2 VTR 1.6 Auto In met red, 31,000 miles, very nice example **£2,995**
06 CITROEN C2 VTR 1.6 Auto In met red, 31,000 miles, very nice example **£2,995**
05 VAUXHALL Astra 1.6 Club Auto 5-Dr. In met blue, 65,000 miles **£2,995**
05 FORD Focus 1.6 Edge 5-Dr In ice blue, 55,000 miles, 2 owners **£2,995**
56 RENAULT Laguna 2.0 Expression Estate In black, 76,000 miles **£2,695**
05 CITROEN C3 14Sx. In black, 84,000 miles, low running costs **£2,495**
04 MGZT Touring Auto V6 In BRG with full leather, 46,000 miles, estate at **£2,495**
53 VW Golf 1.6 Hatch 5-Dr In black, good looking golf with a/c, alloys etc **£2,495**
2000 JAGUAR S-Type 3 OSE Auto In crystal silver with beige leather, 95,000 miles **£2,195**
52 FORD Fiesta 1.4 Zetec 5-Dr In red, 78,000 miles, comprehensive service history **£1,995**

05 HONDA Jazz 1.3 Custom Special
Orange over black, 35,000 miles
£3,995

12 FIAT 500 Lounge
In voltare blue, glass roof section, £30 road tax, low insurance
£7,995

59 KIA Rio 1.4 5-Dr
In black, 1 owner
£4,995

03 MERCEDES SLK 2.3 Auto
In electric blue with black leather, 90,000 miles, convertible
£4,995

56 RENAULT Scenic 1.6 Dynamique
In met sand, 33,000 miles, very nice
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COWBRIDGE COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL YEAR END SPORTS ROUND-UP

'Exceptional year of sport' for Cowbridge school's young pupils

THE 2013-2014 academic year has been one of which Cowbridge Comprehensive School is especially proud.

This year has been full of highs, some lows, but also numerous new horizons.

From a rugby point of view, Cowbridge have had another very successful year. The year-7, 8, 9 and 11 teams respectively were crowned Vale 15-a-side champions, with the year-9s adding to their Welsh sevens title from last year, becoming Welsh under-15s champions in 15-a-side rugby!

The year-8 team were also showing promise, reaching the quarter finals of the biggest sevens tournament in Europe, Rosslyn Park, illustrating what a talented team they are.

Now on to pastures new! In September 2013, Mr Thomas and Mr Silva set up a Blues Academy at Cowbridge Comprehensive School, where students would come to combine their sporting and academic lives. With the new rugby programme in place, Cowbridge Academy went from strength to strength, finishing runners-up in the Welsh Colleges League.

Highlighting the outstanding work the boys had put in over the last year, four players were selected for the Blues' under-18 squad, six for the Welsh under-19s Crawshays and one for the Welsh sevens under-21 development squad.

The academy side is now moving over and beyond the expectations and targets which the WRU had put in place, and will take on achieving great things, especially with the new gym in place.

In football, the school has been very successful also. The year-7 team qualified for the Welsh Cup, but unfortunately got knocked out by the eventual winners in the quarter finals.

The year-9, 10, 11 and senior teams each reached the semi-finals of the Cardiff and Vale Cup, but all lost in very close games. The biggest achievement of all came from the year-8 team, who beat Bro Morgannwg in the final of the Cardiff and Vale Cup 4 – 0, and claim a trophy which they have deserved since starting in the school.

In athletics and cross-country, the boys lived up to their high standards in other sports, and maintained it for these disciplines also. The year-7 cross-country team were crowned champions of the Cardiff and Vale League, and furthermore, they all ran extremely well in the county championships and came away as winners from this as well!

Furthermore, in the year-7 championships, Jack Tudor won the 1,500m and Ben Batten won the 1,000m walk. Although the team results have not been released yet, I'm sure we did very well.

From athletics to basketball. The under-14 Cowbridge A and B teams played in an all Cowbridge Cardiff and Vale Basketball tournament final, where unsurprisingly, Cowbridge came out victorious, albeit Cowbridge A.

Mr Hume has worked tirelessly with these pupils over the last few years, and he has brought the players on no end. We are all very grateful for your hard work and dedication, and Cowbridge are now becoming a force to be reckoned with as a result. Thanks Mr Hume!

Skiing and tennis have also seen their fair share of limelight. The Cowbridge under-18 boys won the Welsh Artificial Ski Slope Championships for the third year in a row.

The under-13 boys tennis team were extremely unlucky to not progress further in the AEGON Tennis Championships, but failed to qualify, as they ended the Vale of Glamorgan Championships as runners-up to Stanwell.

We now come to 5x60 extra-curricular. We would also like to take a moment to thank Mr Chris Ferrier for his continued hard work with 5x60 activities this year. He has promoted and provided opportunities for pupils of all ages to take part in sport.

We have to congratulate him on getting more than 700 school pupils to take part in at least one extra-curricular club this year. In relation to sporting achievements, the junior boys became the Vale badminton and dodgeball champions, and the south east Wales badminton champions.

The senior boys were also very successful, bringing home the Vale badminton and dodgeball championships.

Finally, we have to individually congratulate Cieran Hughes for being selected for the under-16 GB surfing squad, and Matthew Viney for being selected to represent the GB at under-18 level in sailing!

At Cowbridge Comprehensive School, we are not only proud of the pupils who won an individual title or were part of a winning team for Cowbridge, we are proud of every single pupil who puts that jersey on to represent the school and tries their best.

PE and school sport is not about winning and losing, but about bettering yourself, learning and developing life skills, and enjoying yourself in a sporting environment.

All the staff at Cowbridge are looking forward to the new challenges and experiences that next year will bring, and please remember that all sports and extra-curricular clubs are open to everyone!

GIRLS SPORT

As the academic year comes to a close, we are both pleased and proud to report on the girls' amazing sporting participation and achievements.

The girls have competed in 15 different sports throughout the year and have reaped the rewards of their dedication and hard work in training. They have been crowned either county champions or runners up in an impressive 12 out of 15 sports – an outstanding achievement which demonstrates the diverse range of sporting opportunities available to the pupils.

In addition, the girls have also been crowned either Welsh Champions or runners up in a further three sports.

Most notably in athletics, all four girls teams (under-14 A and B, under-16 A and B) qualified for the knock out cup county finals, in which the under-14 A team won the plate competition and the under-16 girls won the B team competition.

The under-14 girls then went on to represent the county in the Welsh finals and won the plate in spectacular style to be crowned Welsh champions!

In cross-country, the girls were county champions and league winners in year-7, year-8 and 9 and runners up in year-10+. The year-7 and 8 team and year-9 and 10 team were also south Wales champions and Jessica Wadey won the title of top league points scorer. As a result the girls claimed silverware in every age group this year which is a fantastic achievement!

Further outstanding sporting success came in netball, where three out of our five year groups qualified for the county finals (year-7, 8 and 10) and in hockey, two of our teams (year-8 and 10) also made it to the county finals, which was an excellent achievement.

In cricket, the girls claimed the runners-up spot in both the South Wales Festival and the Lord Taverners competition and in gymnastics, the under-14 girls were county champions and went on to compete in the Welsh floor and vault championships coming a very respectable second place!

The girls also shone in skiing, where the A team won the Cardiff & Central Ski Wales Artificial Championships and in Sports Hall Athletics, 10 of our girls either won or were runners up in individual events.

Success also came through the 5 x 60 scheme, where the girls claimed further silverware as badminton, basketball and dodgeball champions across the age groups and were county finalists in touch rugby.

As a school, the girls also choreographed and performed in the Sherman dance production and put on an excellent show for both parents and the Cardiff and Vale schools.

As well as outstanding team success, the girls can also boast a staggering 35 county champions representatives and an amazing 21 international athletes.

The following girls have gained county honours in more than one sport.

Megan Hodgson – athetics and gymnastics; Jessica Wadey – athletics and cross-country; Sophie Hawkins – football, cross-country and basketball; Beth Edwards – cross-country and basketball; Selina Radcliffe – cross-country and netball.

A further two girls have also received international honours in more than one sport: Mali Howell – Wales tetrathlon and pistol shooting; Jessica Wadey – Wales cross-country and lifeguards.

Also, three girls have gone on to compete for Great Britain throughout the year: Sarah Lewis – GB synchronised skating; Jemma Viney – GB sailing; Seren Allin – GB biathlon.

In addition to this, year-13 pupil Bethan Sloan has been selected in the Wales Commonwealth Games swimming team and will compete in the 50m, 100m and 200m breaststroke. Good luck Beth, we will all be cheering you on!

What an amazing set of results which have only been touched upon here to round up the season.

A full complement of sporting honours will be acknowledged and celebrated in our annual sports presentation on September 10, 6pm in the main hall. Invites are going out to pupils and parents as we write and we look forward to welcoming you all there.

Reports supplied by the school's sports departments.

Tim's easy winner

***NATHAN'S PRIDE*, trained by Tim Vaughan at Aberthin, chalked-up his third win in his last four outings when easily winning the 32Red Casino Novices' Hurdle at Uttoxeter last week.**

Confidently ridden by Richard Johnson, the strongly-fancied six-year-old won by 17 lengths from *Camachoice*.

The closing two-mile bumper (National Hunt flat race) was won by 12-1 chance *Bumble Bay*, trained by Robert Stephens at Chepstow.

BRIAN LEE

BOWLERS HAVE MIXED WEEK

COWBRIDGE lady bowlers played a friendly match at home to Kenfig Hill and Pyle, which they lost, but more importantly, they won their league match at home to Barry Athletic.

In the friendly match, which they lost 35-39, the ladies managed to just win on two rinks, but the rink with Shirley Dunsworth, Sue Brewer, Pat Davey and new skip Sylvia Hole lost 7-14.

The two winning rinks were Caryl Davies, Carol Davies, Sian Lewis and skip Anne Jarvis who won 14-13, and on the rink with Dorothy Pritchard, Mary Dowdle, Diane Lloyd and skip Jan Lewis, they won 14-12.

The league match played at home against Barry Athletic ended with two rinks drawing with scores of 17-17. The winning rink that won the match was Janet Morton, Diane Lloyd, Pat Davey and skip Anne Jarvis with a win by 24 shots to 11.

The two rinks that drew were Kay Edwards, Phyllis Price, Pat Holdsworth and skip Shirley Wilkinson, and Lin Wallace, Dorothy Pritchard, Joy Woolford and skip Sue Flower.

This week, both their matches are away, a CCS against Bridgend Municipal and league against Llantwit Major.

The men played two away matches, both resulting in narrow defeats. In our matches this season, we seem to play well on three rinks but badly lose on the fourth, resulting in lost matches!

In our Munro Cup match away at Penarth Belle Vue, we lost 50-77, winning on two rinks. The first winning rink was Terry Dunsworth, Bryan Hole, Rob Lewis and skip Norman Wilkinson with a win of 18-10, and on the rink with Gerwyn Watkins, Tony Lewis, Guy Morton and Skip Roger Barwick, they won 14-12, picking up six shots on the last three ends.

The rink with Ron Frayling, Ron Woolford, Len Taylor and skip Alan Wallace lost 13-18, but on the rink with Gerry Lloyd, Mick Davey, Byron Richards and skip John Trott they sadly lost 5-38.

In our league match away at Senghenydd we just lost by nine shots, 78-87. We again had two winning rinks, gaining four more away points. The two winning rinks were Terry Dunsworth, Gerry Lloyd, Brian Williams and skip John Trott who won 23-17, and on the rink with Mansel Davey, Rob Lewis, John Jones and skip Roger Barwick, they won 22-18.

The rink with Clive Pritchard, Bryan Hole, Guy Morton and skip Mike Bradley, lost 20-26, after picking up eight shots on the last three ends.

Ron Frayling, Tony Lewis, Colin Wilson and skip Norman Wilkinson lost 13-26, still, well done to the men for only losing by nine shots against the undefeated, top of the table, Senghenydd. Our next league match is at home to Pontypridd. **NJW**

Killer instinct lacking as Firsts slip to a loss

COWBRIDGE travelled to Maesteg Town on an overcast and sticky day.

After winning the toss, Tom Merilaht choose to bat, a decision which instantly backfired when Lloyd was caught and bowled in the first over. Phil Harris, 49, came out blazing and swung the momentum back to Cowbridge with some powerful pulls and straight drives.

A fine partnership of 80 between Harris and Merilaht was ended when the ball ripped and spun through Harris' defence.

This then signalled a cluster of wickets and a all too familiar CCC collapse, as Merilaht went for 35 and no other batsmen reached double figures - 145 all out in 40 overs, gifting Maesteg an additional 10 overs for their chase.

Collier started well for Cowbridge, with two early wickets, but then the Maesteg batters found some fluency in front of a loud partisan crowd cheering on every run.

At 109-3, the game seemed all but lost until Harris returned to pick up three wickets in two overs, and Harry Collier held a contender for catch of the season at mid on off Matthew Keating.

Maesteg had fallen to 120-8 and Cowbridge sensed an unlikely victory. Unfortunately Cowbridge could not apply the killer final blow, and Maesteg knocked off the wining runs in the 57th over.

This week Cowbridge entertain Llanelli at home. **JB**

Seconds defeat Maesteg

LAST Saturday Cowbridge 2nd XI entertained Maesteg Town at the Athletic ground on a hot and humid day.

Cowbridge won the toss and with the conditions ideal for swing bowling the captain had no hesitation in bowling first. This proved to be a wise decision as from the outset the Cowbridge openers Sean Rowland and John Gilbert, put the Maesteg batsmen under immense pressure.

With the score only on five John Gilbert struck first which was to be the prelude to a quite superb spell of bowling. Ably supported by Rowland, who picked two wickets himself, and Ed Hardy, John Gilbert cut a swathe through the Maesteg batsmen.

No batsmen was able to cope with his accuracy and swing and wickets tumbled. In the end John finished with terrific figures of 7 for 32 off 11 overs with Maesteg bundled out for a paltry 62 off just 20 overs.

Cowbridge knew they had plenty of time to get the Maesteg total but were conscious of the forecast for bad weather to come in later in the day.

As a result both the Cowbridge openers, Jonty Webb and Darren Van Der Vyver, set about the run chase in a positive fashion. Runs came quickly with both batsmen peppering the boundary. Darren was finally out for a rapid 26, with the score on 44 which brought Sean Rowland to the crease who, along with Jonty Webb, 24 not out, saw Cowbridge home in what was a comprehensive victory.

This was an excellent performance by the side with special mention having to go to John Gilbert. Hopefully a further victory can be achieved this week when the side travels to Llanelli. **JW**